

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE

CHILD WELFARE SERVICES & ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES REALIGNMENT REPORT: OUTCOME & EXPENDITURE DATA SUMMARY

April 2016 Annual Report



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CHILD WELFARE SERVICES & ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES REALIGNMENT REPORT

OUTCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA SUMMARY

April 2016 Annual Report to the Legislature

2011 Realignment of the Child Welfare Services and Adult Protective Services Systems

Senate Bill (SB) 1013 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) added Welfare and Institutions Code Section (W&IC) 10104 to require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to annually report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature, and publicly post on the CDSS internet website, a summary of outcome and expenditure data that allows for monitoring of changes over time that may have occurred as a result of the 2011 Realignment of the child welfare services and adult protective services systems.

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CHILD WELFARE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

This report is the fourth annual report on the impact of 2011 realignment on the child welfare system. Child welfare outcomes in California have been relatively stable over the past five years. Further, there do not appear to be any negative consequences of having transferred fiscal responsibility for the program to the county level.

Safety Constellation

Referral rates for children with at least one allegation of maltreatment have remained relatively constant since 2009. There has been a slight increase from 50.6 per 1,000 children in 2009 to 54.7 per 1,000 children in 2014, though there was a very slight decrease in referral rates between 2012 and 2013. Substantiation rates (referrals that are confirmed through an investigation) for 2009 to 2014 have decreased from 9.9 per 1,000 children to 9.1 per 1,000 children, while rates of entry have remained almost unchanged, varying between 3.3 and 3.5 for the same time period. Child welfare practices of investigating referrals within policy timeframes continue to remain above state standards and children continue to be protected from further maltreatment (as measured by Recurrence of Maltreatment, Figure 4, which has remained stable), based on the current data.

Lastly for safety, statewide performance on monthly caseworker visits with children continues to improve, with a seven percent increase in compliance with the monthly requirement between fiscal year (FY) 2009-10 and FY 2014-15.

Placement and Caseload Constellation

There has been a significant decline in the foster care caseload over the last 15 years. Caseload has declined more than 47 percent from 108,159 in 2000 to 57,266¹ in 2015. Foster care caseloads were lowest in July 2012 at 55,558.

Between FY 2009-10 and FY 2014-15, the number of children for whom the first placement is with a relative/kin increased from 18 percent to 26 percent, while the number of children placed in group homes decreased from 16 percent to 13 percent. Relative homes continue to be the predominant placement for children in care and the proportion of children experiencing placement stability has improved, going from 4.35 moves per 1,000 days in FY 2009-10 to 3.78 moves per 1,000 days for FY 2014-15, achieving the national standard of 4.12 moves or fewer.

Finally, from 2007 through 2012, the median length of stay for entries into foster care has increased by 51 days from 399 days to 450 days. This increase was most pronounced between 2011 and 2012, when the median length of stay was extended by 29 days.

¹ This figure includes all agencies and children ages 0-17.

Permanency Constellation

The proportion of children who entered foster care and subsequently exited to permanency² due to guardianship, adoption or reunification within 12 months dropped from 40.9 percent in FY 2009-10 to 35.5 percent in FY 2013-14. Over the same time period, the proportion of children in care for 12 to 23 months was relatively stable (ranging from 44.9 percent to 45.0 percent), and the proportion of children in care for 24 months or longer increased from 25.9 percent to 27.9 percent. Of all children who exited foster care to permanency in FY 2012-13, 11.9 percent reentered foster care within 12 months, which is an improvement over the 12.5 percent who reentered within 12 months in FY 2011-12. While there may be some overlap, the two measures (permanency within 12 months and re-entry) are not restricted to the same group of children.

INTRODUCTION

The CDSS is the single state agency responsible for the administration and supervision of the Child Welfare Services (CWS) system, a system authorized through the federal Social Security Act, Subparts IV-E and IV-B and through various chapters of the W&IC. Oversight and monitoring of the CWS system, including development of programmatic and fiscal policy and training and technical assistance, are central to this responsibility. The fiscal and programmatic administration of CWS programs continues to be data-informed to ensure compliance with state plan requirements and to guarantee maximization of federal financial participation for these programs.

The Budget Act of 2011 included a major realignment of public safety programs from the state to local governments. Known as 2011 Realignment, this shift moves programs and fiscal responsibility to the level of government that can best provide the services, while eliminating duplication of effort, generating savings, and increasing flexibility. Assembly Bill (AB) 118 (Chapter 40, Statutes of 2011) and ABX1 16 (Chapter 13, Statutes of 2011), realigned the CDSS funding for CWS, Adoption Services, Foster Care, Adult Protective Services (APS), and programs from the state to local governments and redirects specified tax revenues to fund this effort. In addition, SB 1013 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) provided necessary statutory and technical changes to implement provisions of the Budget Act of 2012 related to 2011 Realignment. This major shift in funding has resulted in an increased interest in monitoring child welfare services and adult protective services to determine whether or not the implementation of realignment has result in changes in outcomes for the populations served by these programs.

The CDSS increased its use of data to oversee county CWS as a result of the passage of AB 636 (Steinberg, Chapter 678, Statutes of 2001). The SB 1013 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 35, Statutes of 2012) added W&IC section 10104 to require CDSS to annually report to the appropriate fiscal and policy committees of the Legislature, and publicly post on the Department's internet website, a summary of outcome and expenditure data that allows for monitoring of changes over time that may have occurred as a result of the 2011

² While the definition of "permanency" is complex and should consider social, emotional and legal aspects, for the purposes of this document, it means exiting foster care to a permanent family through reunification, guardianship or adoption.

realignment. Programmatic data have provided greater accountability for child and family outcomes across California, and serve as the foundation for this annual report to the Legislature required by SB 1013. In addition, SB 855 (Committee of Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2014) further amended W&IC section 10104 to include, to the extent information is readily and publicly available, the amount of realignment growth funds each county receives, the CWS social worker caseload per county and the number of authorized positions.

Performance measures and process data contained in this report are statewide and reflect a cross section of child welfare practices that impact child and family safety, permanency and well-being, many of which were developed pursuant to AB 636. Through continuous quality improvement, the state and counties systematically review the data and assess the changes that occur in demographics, programs and practices that account for positive or negative trends. Future reports will be able to address a number of questions that arise through the use of case record reviews, which were implemented statewide in September 2015. Data³ contained in this report were drawn from the Child Welfare System/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) and are available in the publicly accessible CDSS/UC Berkeley Dynamic Report system: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/⁴.

County-specific data can be found at: <http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/PG3197.HTM>. It should be noted that certain figures (Figures 7 and 9b) in this report display statewide data by placing agency (child welfare or probation). However, county-specific data is not displayed by placing agency due to small population size. In addition, the figures in the Safety Constellation section, with the exception of Figure 7, contain child welfare data only and do not apply to probation.

In addition, certain data measures (in Figures 3, 4, 9b, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15) in this year's report reflect revised methodologies. Due to the changes in methodologies, the data contained in previous years' reports cannot be compared with the data in this year's report. An explanation of the change in the methodology and analysis of each measure is provided below. Though previous years' reports and this report cannot be directly compared, the performance over time of each revised data measure can be compared within this report because the new methodology has been applied to historical data presented in this report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

The CWS portion of this report is organized into three sections: 1) Performance Measures, 2) County Growth & Staffing, and 3) Expenditures Summary. Within the Performance Measures section are three separate constellations: 1) Safety Outcomes, 2) Placement and Caseload Outcomes and 3) Permanency Outcomes. Constellations of outcomes, rather than single measures, are appropriate for the complex CWS system: changes in one part of the system can significantly affect other areas.

³ Changes in the data over time are calculated as percent change rather than absolute differences in order to account for the varying "sizes" of the units of data.

⁴ Figures 1-9a and 10-16 in this report were prepared by the staff of the California Child Welfare Indicators Project, CSSR, UC Berkeley using the CWS/CMS 2015 Q3 extract and can be found at http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

Examining longitudinal outcome data requires caution and attention to a number of key analytic considerations. The following should be borne in mind when reviewing the data and trends outlined in the report:

- Child welfare is a system and data related to this system are interconnected; measures should not be viewed in isolation.
- Comparing data between various counties on any given measure has limitations due to economic, geographic and demographic differences that may require different prevention and intervention strategies from one county to the other.
- In small counties, a small number of children, even one family, can create significant shifts in data.
- Performance in any given year needs to be viewed in the context of prior performance.
- Individual county data may differ from statewide data due to local demographics, economics, size, and other factors.

The CDSS continues to monitor county claiming of federal funds. Counties are required to claim actual costs for the realigned CWS programs in the same manner as they did prior to implementation of 2011 realignment. Expenditures for all realigned programs displayed in the Realignment Expenditures Summary (Attachment A) compare three years of actuals beginning with FY 2011-12 (when realignment went into effect). The percent change from year to year has been identified as follows:

- Less than zero (0) percent change highlighted in blue
- Between zero (0) percent and fifty (50) percent change highlighted in red
- Between fifty (50) percent and one hundred (100) percent change highlighted in green
- Above one hundred (100) percent change highlighted in purple

The expenditures for FY 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15, as displayed in the Realignment Expenditures Summary, capture the non-federal share comprised wholly of Local Revenue Fund (LRF) and county funds. Because counties have up to nine months to submit revisions to their expenditures, FY 2013-14 expenditure data have now been finalized and may differ from last year's report. The FY 2014-15 expenditure data are preliminary and subject to change once counties submit their revised claims.

Information about county realignment growth funds and staffing is included in this report for the second time. The 2011 realignment growth is distributed by the State Controller's Office (SCO) to the county welfare departments in the fall every year for the prior year's growth the counties earned. For example, the county growth funds earned in FY 2013-14 by the counties; are distributed by SCO on November 4, 2014. Due to county budgeting processes, these funds are often not expended until the next FY, and sometimes not fully spent until the following fiscal year after that. County staffing information comes from County Self Assessments (CSAs) submitted to CDSS as part of the California Child and Family Service Review (C-CFSR) process or from counties self-reporting updated information to CDSS for the purposes of this report.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

On October 10, 2014, the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) issued a new Federal Register notice⁵ informing states of the final plan to replace the outcome measures used to determine a state's substantial conformity with Titles IV-B and IV-E of the Social Security Act. On September 28, 2015, CDSS released All County Letter (ACL) 15-63 outlining these changes and providing instructions for counties.

These federal outcome measures are used by county child welfare and juvenile probation agencies via the C-CFSR process to measure performance in ensuring the safety, permanency, and well-being of children involved in their respective systems. The 17 federal outcome measures that were used in prior years have been replaced, updated, or eliminated to produce a total of seven new federal outcome measures. These new measures more closely track what is important to know about California's child welfare practice and the impact on outcomes for children and families. The new federal measures are listed below, with a description of the measure:

Safety

- S1: Maltreatment in foster care: Of all children in foster care during a 12-month period, what is the rate of victimization per day of foster care?
- S2: Recurrence of maltreatment: Of all children who were victims of a substantiated or indicated maltreatment report during a 12-month reporting period, what percent were victims of another substantiated or indicated maltreatment report within 12 months of their initial report?

Permanency

- P1: Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, what percent are discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care?
- P2: Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 12 to 23 months: Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period, who had been in foster care (in that episode) between 12 and 23 months, what percent discharged from foster care to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the period?
- P3: Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care 24 months or longer: Of all children in foster care on the first day of a 12 month period who had been in foster care (in that episode) for 24 months or more, what percent discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the 12 month period?
- P4: Re-entry into foster care in 12 months: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period who discharged within 12 months to reunification, live with relative, or guardianship, what percent re-entered foster care within 12 months of their discharge?
- P5: Placement Stability: Of all children who enter foster care in a 12-month period, what is the rate of placement moves per day of foster care?

⁵ Register 79 FR 61241; ACF published a correction to this Final Rule in the Federal Register 80 FR 27263 on May 13, 2015.

1: Safety Constellation

California's CWS has the paramount goal of keeping children safe from abuse and neglect. County child welfare agencies must ensure that children who have been found to be victims of maltreatment are protected from further abuse whether they remain at home or are placed in an out-of-home setting. For children at risk of being removed from their homes, the county child welfare agency must appropriately consider providing services to families in crisis to prevent or remedy abuse or neglect. Whenever possible, the goal is preserving families and keeping children safely in their own homes.

1.1 - Referral, Substantiation and Entry Rates

Referral rates tell us how many children with at least one allegation of maltreatment are reported to a county. The numbers are presented as *per 1,000 children* in the general child population.

Substantiation rates tell us how many children with an allegation of maltreatment have had that allegation confirmed through an investigation. The numbers are presented as *per 1,000 children* in the general child population. Generally, substantiation rates can highlight systemic and practice issues, assist in evaluating the effectiveness of existing strategies, and/or inform planning for prevention, intervention and treatment of abuse and neglect.

Entry rates tell us how many children entered foster care as a result of a substantiated allegation. The numbers are presented as *per 1,000 children* in the general child population.

Figure 1 illustrates that referral rates⁶ have slightly increased from 50.6 per 1,000 children in 2009 to 54.7 per 1,000 children in 2014 with a very slight decrease between 2012 and 2013. Substantiation rates for 2009 to 2014 have decreased from 9.9 per 1,000 children to 9.1 per 1,000 children while rates of entry have remained almost unchanged, ranging from 3.3 to 3.5 per 1,000 children for the same time period. Although referral rates are slightly increasing, there continues to be a decrease in the rate of substantiations. This may be attributed to a combination of factors such as evolving child welfare practices related to engagement of children and their families during investigations and providing in-home supportive services; and strategies that provide alternative services, such as Differential Response.

⁶ Referral rates are determined by the unduplicated count of children in the state with at least one allegation of maltreatment during the specified period.

Figure 1: Rate of children with allegations, substantiations, and entries (per 1,000)

		2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Children with allegations	per 1,000	50.6	51.6	51.6	53.2	52.9	54.7
	n	471,376	478,780	474,830	486,414	482,083	497,270
Children with substantiated allegations	per 1,000	9.9	9.6	9.5	9.3	9.2	9.1
	n	92,606	88,734	87,459	84,870	84,002	82,367
Children with entries	per 1,000	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.5
	n	31,650	30,687	30,079	30,811	32,022	32,024
Child population (0-17 years)	N	9,307,822	9,273,754	9,203,420	9,149,419	9,104,860	9,097,971

Agency: Child Welfare, Age: 0-17 Years, Children with Allegations, Substantiations, and Entries per 1,000 Child Population

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/RefRates.aspx

1.2 - Referrals Evaluated Out

Not all referrals received are investigated by county child welfare agencies. On average, more referrals are “evaluated out” than are substantiated (see Figure 2). In comparing FY 2009-10 to 2014-15, there has been an increase in the number of referrals that were evaluated out, from 19 percent to 22 percent. Referrals that are evaluated out are not assigned to a county Emergency Response (ER) social worker for investigation. Some examples of situations when a referral is evaluated out include:

- Insufficient information is provided in the initial report (e.g., an anonymous person calls the ER hotline to report that “A mom is beating her child in a local shopping center” and then hangs up).
- The alleged perpetrator is not a parent or caretaker, in which case the allegation is more appropriately referred to local law enforcement.
- The reported incident does not meet the statutory threshold for child abuse or neglect (e.g., two adolescent siblings in a physical altercation).

Criteria or thresholds influencing ER investigations may vary due to informal and formal changes in local policy or practice, differences in state or federal regulations or instructions (or their interpretations), training needs, and other factors. Routine studies of referral data over time may signal the need for further analysis if the proportion of referrals that are evaluated out in a certain jurisdiction varies significantly over time. Also, local analysis of the referrals that are evaluated out can help identify emerging or recurring issues for families in the community that do not meet the threshold for intervention. This can inform a county’s prevention/early intervention and Differential Response efforts in assisting families to resolve crises before they escalate to a level that requires CWS intervention. The state and counties continue to enhance the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) system across the state to use data to identify problems, evaluate effective practices and identify opportunities to make improvements in the system.

Figure 2: Children and youth with allegations, by disposition type

		Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Jul 2013-Jun 2014	Jul 2014-Jun 2015
Substantiated	%	19%	19%	18%	17%	17%	16%
	n	89,982	89,693	85,044	83,943	83,592	79,100
Inconclusive	%	16%	14%	16%	19%	21%	22%
	n	74,698	68,605	77,111	91,350	102,214	109,030
Unfounded	%	46%	48%	46%	43%	40%	38%
	n	216,418	228,959	222,900	205,211	196,785	190,468
Assessment only/ evaluated out	%	19%	18%	20%	21%	22%	22%
	n	91,130	87,769	94,609	99,398	105,513	110,582
Not yet determined	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%
	n	407	483	500	580	827	9,495
Total	N	472,635	475,509	480,164	480,482	488,931	498,675

Agency: Child Welfare, Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Allegations.aspx

1.3 - Maltreatment in Foster Care

Maltreatment in foster care (S1) is a federal measure that determines the rate of victimization per 100,000 days of foster care, for all children in foster care during a 12-month period.

Previously, this measure contained data on the percentage of children not maltreated in foster care and only looked at maltreatment by foster parents or staff in group home facilities. The new measure contains data on the rate of victimization per day, per child in foster care. This new measure now includes all the days the child was in foster care during the year and includes multiple incidents of substantiated maltreatment as well as maltreatment by any perpetrator while the child is in foster care. This provides a more accurate picture of actual maltreatment rates in foster care than the previous methodology did.

California continues to make progress in this area, as the rate of substantiated maltreatment has decreased every year since FY 2009-10. In FY 2014-15 this rate was 8.77 instances of maltreatment per 100,000 days of foster care, which just falls short of the national standard of 8.5 or fewer.

Figure 3: Maltreatment in foster care

		<i>Jul 2009- Jun 2010</i>	<i>Jul 2010- Jun 2011</i>	<i>Jul 2011- Jun 2012</i>	<i>Jul 2012- Jun 2013</i>	<i>Jul 2013- Jun 2014</i>	<i>Jul 2014 -Jun 2015</i>
Instances of substantiated maltreatment	per 100,000 days	11.68	9.99	9.78	9.93	8.91	8.77
	n	2,398	1,950	1,839	1,842	1,708	1,701
Foster care days	N	20,533,763	19,523,616	18,803,275	18,554,649	19,161,218	19,393,829

Agency: All, Number of Days in Care: 8 days or more, Age: 0-17 Years, Rate per 100,000 days

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/S1.aspx

1.4 - Recurrence of Maltreatment (S2)

Recurrence of maltreatment (S2) is a federal measure that determines the proportion of children who had at least one additional substantiated maltreatment report within 12 months following the date of the initial substantiated report. Previously, this measure looked only at a six-month period following an initial substantiated report of maltreatment and provided rates of recurrence vs. no recurrence. This updated measure looks at the county child welfare agency's success in preventing subsequent maltreatment of a child for whom they had a substantiated report of maltreatment within the prior 12 months.

Recurrence of maltreatment remains stable, ranging from 10 percent to 10.5 percent over the last five years, with a decrease from 10.5 percent in FY 2012-13 to 10.2 percent in FY 2013-14. The national standard for this measure is 9.1 percent or less. This measure provides the state, counties and stakeholders with information about the most important outcome for children: freedom from abuse or neglect. It is cursory information, however, as the measure is limited in its ability to establish a direct causal link between one or more prevention or intervention strategies and a particular county's relative success on this measure.

Figure 4: Recurrence of maltreatment in foster care

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014
Recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months	%	10.5%	10.1%	10.1%	10.5%	10.2%
	n	8,356	8,353	7,929	8,210	7,960
Children with substantiated allegations during 12-month period	N	79,866	82,431	78,702	78,024	78,301

1.5 - Timely Response to Child Abuse Investigations

Timely response to child abuse investigation data are used to assess performance for state and federal requirements for timely investigations of child abuse and neglect allegations. Both the immediate and 10-day response measures inform whether investigations were initiated and contact was made with the alleged child victim within the required timeframe. They also help

identify possible causes for success, barriers to improvement, potential solutions, and strategies for change. Finally, these measures may offer insight into the effects of changes in policies and practice, particularly at the county level.

As shown in Figures 5 and 6, performance is above the state goal of 90 percent, with immediate response referrals receiving a timely response consistently over 97 percent of the time between 2010 and 2015. Ten-day response referrals receiving a timely response have been hovering at or above 94 percent during the 2010 to 2015 time period. The April to June intervals for each year are presented below.

Figure 5: Immediate response referrals receiving a timely response

		Apr-Jun 2010	Apr-Jun 2011	Apr-Jun 2012	Apr-Jun 2013	Apr-Jun 2014	Apr-Jun 2015
Immediate response referrals receiving a timely response	%	97.7%	98.1%	98.4%	98.0%	98.1%	97.7%
	n	18,849	17,569	18,340	19,615	18,342	17,335
Required immediate response referrals	N	19,293	17,918	18,644	20,014	18,702	17,750

Agency: Child Welfare, Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/CDSS_2B.aspx

Figure 6: Ten-day response referrals receiving a timely response

		Apr-Jun 2010	Apr-Jun 2011	Apr-Jun 2012	Apr-Jun 2013	Apr-Jun 2014	Apr-Jun 2015
Ten-day response referrals receiving a timely response	%	94.6%	94.5%	94.3%	94.2%	95.0%	94.0%
	n	42,385	41,858	40,207	40,274	41,724	41,328
Required ten-day response referrals	N	44,820	44,289	42,634	42,769	43,905	43,989

Agency: Child Welfare, Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/CDSS_2B.aspx

1.6 - Caseworker Visits with Children

This measure is a two-part federal performance measure that focuses on both timeliness and location of the caseworker's visits for children placed in foster care (out of their home)⁷. In addition to being a federal requirement, research⁸ demonstrates that there is a strong correlation between frequent caseworker visits with foster children and positive outcomes for these children, such as timely achievement of permanency.

Timeliness measures the percentage of monthly face-to-face caseworker visits made with children in foster care placements. California continues to improve the proportion of children who are visited each month, increasing from 87.8 percent to 94 percent between FY 2009-10 to FY 2014-15⁹. Although California continues to make steady progress in ensuring children are visited on a monthly basis, state performance is still slightly below the federal requirement of 95 percent for FY 2014-15.

Location measures the percentage of visits that occurred in the child's residence. Federal law requires that, of monthly visits that occur, at least 50 percent of those visits must occur in the residence of the child (California's target is set at 51 percent). California has continued to improve its performance on this measure, with the proportion of visits occurring in the child's home increasing from 71.4 percent to 79.6 percent between FY 2009-10 and FY 2014-15.

It should be noted that the monthly caseworker visit requirement also pertains to children and youth in foster care who are supervised by county probation agencies. As shown in Figure 7 below, probation data in CWS/CMS became available starting in FY 2012-13. Until FY 2012-13, probation agencies did not have the ability to input information into CWS/CMS and so probation performance for this measure could not be captured. While access to CWS/CMS and the ability of probation agencies to enter placement data on federally eligible foster care wards has provided the some statewide data on probation youth, workload and data integrity complications have arisen as well. The most onerous, from the perspective of probation agencies, is the burden of entering placement data into both the county-specific systems probation agencies use for meeting their global case management needs as well as into CWS/CMS. The requirement to maintain dual electronic records for a subset of their total ward population is an important contributor to the lower percentage of probation agency visits documented in CWS/CMS. Despite this burden, probation agencies are making an effort to improve data entry into CWS/CMS and the compliance rate rose nearly one percent in the last year.

⁷ This measure is based on the total number of visits that would occur during the fiscal year if each foster child were visited once every full calendar month that they are in care. In addition, due to the importance of monthly visitation with children who have open cases and remain in their home, a state measure addressing this topic is now publically available on the CDSS/UC Berkeley Dynamic Report system.

⁸ <https://www.childwelfare.gov/outofhome/casework/children/visits.cfm>

⁹ Probation numbers became available for this analysis in FY 2012-2013. Prior FY's only contained the Child Welfare agency.

Figure 7: Caseworker Visits with Children

		Agency: Child Welfare			Agency: Child Welfare and Probation		
		Jul 2009-Jun 2010	Jul 2010-Jun 2011	Jul 2011-Jun 2012	Jul 2012-Jun 2013	Jul 2013-Jun 2014	Jul 2014-Jun 2015
Visit months (visited during month)	%	87.8%	90.5%	93.4%	92.1%	93.6%	94.0%
	n	516,522	507,085	503,262	524,341	551,488	563,178
Months open (in care entire month)	N	588,024	560,276	539,093	569,299	589,495	598,886
Visited in the residence	%	71.4%	73.6%	75.7%	77.2%	78.9%	79.6%
	n	368,890	373,277	380,906	404,565	435,139	448,528
Visit months (visited during month)	N	516,522	507,085	503,262	524,341	551,488	563,178

Agency: Jul 2009 through Jun 2012--Child Welfare, Jul 2012 through Jun 2015--Child Welfare and Probation; Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/CDSS_2F.aspx

2: Placement and Caseload Constellation

For children who cannot remain safely in their homes, a constellation of placement and caseload indicators provide information on the number of children who are in out-of-home care at any given point in time, their initial and subsequent placements, and their stability in those placements. This information is crucial for counties in managing their resources towards achieving the driving goal for children in foster care -- attaining timely permanency. The placement types included below account for over 95 percent of placements¹⁰.

- Relatives/Kin
- Guardian
- Foster Family Homes
- Foster Family Agency Certified Homes
- Group Homes

2.1 - Initial Placements over Time

This measure provides information about children's initial placements when they enter foster care for the first time and how that has changed over time. It does not include children who have re-entered foster care after exiting the system.

Because removal from their parents can be a traumatic event for children, the initial placement is important to consider. Federal law and best practices suggest the importance of placing children in the least restrictive, most family-like setting. Ideally, this means placement with relatives or close family friends with whom children are already connected.

Figure 8 displays the initial placements for children entering foster care for the first time, by placement type. Since FY 2009-10, the percentage of children for whom the first placement was with kin increased from 18 percent to 26 percent in FY 2014-15, while the proportion of children placed in group homes decreased from 16 percent to 13 percent over the same time period. Over the past five years, Foster Family Agencies (FFAs) have consistently accounted for between 40 and 42 percent of initial placements.

¹⁰ Other placement types include: Shelters, court-specified, small family homes, medical facilities, tribe-specified homes, and Supervised Independent Living Placements.

Figure 8: First entries to out-of-home care, by placement type

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014	Jul 2014- Jun 2015
Pre-adopt	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	6	11	20	18	7	1
Kin	%	18%	20%	23%	24%	25%	26%
	n	4,369	5,015	5,412	6,074	6,628	6,410
Foster	%	19%	18%	17%	17%	17%	16%
	n	4,501	4,387	4,067	4,223	4,318	3,912
FFA	%	42%	41%	40%	41%	40%	41%
	n	10,180	10,207	9,513	10,381	10,362	10,215
Court specified	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	45	60	51	34	46	42
Group	%	16%	15%	14%	13%	13%	13%
	n	3,878	3,603	3,335	3,275	3,371	3,150
Shelter	%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%
	n	840	890	1,028	826	864	811
Guardian	%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	n	499	516	437	411	428	389
SILP	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	2	5	4	8	3	2
Total	N	24,320	24,694	23,867	25,250	26,027	24,932

Agency: All, Episode Count: First Entry,
 Number of Days in Care: 8 days or more,
 Age: 0-17 Years
 Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.
http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/Entries.aspx

2.2 - Point in Time by Placement Type

This measure provides information about the foster care caseload over time and children’s placement types on July 1st of each year. As depicted in Figure 9a, more children in foster care are placed with a relative/kin than in any other setting. Also included in the relative/kin category are children who are placed with someone with whom they have a close relationship, referred to as “Non-related Extended Family Member.”

Figure 9a: In care on July 1, by placement type

		Jul 1, 2010	Jul 1, 2011	Jul 1, 2012	Jul 1, 2013	Jul 1, 2014	Jul 1, 2015
Pre-adopt	%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
	n	1,549	1,499	1,450	1,511	1,521	1,560
Kin	%	30%	32%	34%	35%	37%	37%
	n	17,861	18,409	18,881	20,057	21,096	21,294
Foster	%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%	9%
	n	5,431	5,212	5,054	5,134	5,399	5,352
FFA	%	28%	27%	25%	25%	26%	26%
	n	16,369	15,463	14,022	14,267	14,791	15,015
Court specified	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	213	196	195	193	175	206
Group	%	10%	10%	10%	10%	9%	9%
	n	6,066	5,854	5,593	5,475	5,293	5,164
Shelter	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	140	119	142	122	125	116
Non-foster care	%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	n	391	528	675	603	611	523
Transitional housing	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	103	87	84	72	55	82
Guardian - dependent	%	4%	4%	3%	3%	2%	2%
	n	2,462	2,053	1,747	1,504	1,318	1,142
Guardian - other	%	8%	9%	9%	9%	8%	8%
	n	4,930	4,900	4,860	4,857	4,772	4,571
Runaway	%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
	n	1,441	1,253	1,097	1,036	1,006	998
Trial home visit	%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
	n	538	548	438	433	507	418
SILP	%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	n	1	2	1	3	3	1
Other	%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	1%
	n	1,643	1,443	1,319	1,247	1,073	824
Total	N	59,138	57,566	55,558	56,514	57,745	57,266

Agency: All, Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/PIT.aspx

2.3 - Children and Youth in Group Homes for Longer than One Year

The 2011 Realignment Trailer Bill added W&IC section 11467(c)(2) requiring CDSS to work with stakeholders to develop a procedure for identifying youth who have been in group care for one year or longer to determine the reason for the continued stay and to develop a plan for each child to transition to a family-like setting as appropriate. In addition, AB 74 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 21, Statutes of 2013) added W&IC section 16010.8 requiring CDSS to report to the Legislature on the outcomes of the assessment of each youth in group care for longer than one year and the outcomes of planned or actual transitions to family settings. Utilizing CWS/CMS, CDSS conducts a special data extraction to capture this information and provides it to county child welfare and probation agencies. This year, CDSS and UC Berkeley revised this measure’s methodology to more accurately capture the total number of youth in group care for longer than one year. Figure 9b shows the total number of children and youth in a group home for longer than one year, stratified by age group (ages 0-6, 7-12, and 13-18) and by placing agency. The largest age group category, 13-18 years of age, represents 89 percent of youth in group care for longer than one year, with 80 percent of the youth in this age group supervised by child welfare agencies. In looking at the total number of group home placements on June 11, 2015 (5,164), 33 percent were in a group home for longer than one year (1,714).

Figure 9b: In care June 11, 2015, number of children/youth in a group home for longer than one year

Agency	N	Age of Child		
		0-6 years	7-12 years	13-18 years
Child Welfare	1,408	2	192	1,214
Probation	306	0	1	305
Total	1,714	2	193	1,519

Agency: Child Welfare/Probation, Age: 0-18 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract..

2.4 - Placement Stability (P5)

The placement stability measure describes the number of placement moves per 1,000 days for children who have been in foster care for at least eight days. This measure has changed from the previous methodology by using an entry cohort rather than all children in care for less than 12 months. Additionally, it allows for a control that filters for time in foster care and measuring moves per placement day versus the total number of moves per child. This means there is an accurate account of the actual number of moves. This revised measure does not count the initial removal as a placement move.

Since placement changes can be disruptive to children, it is important to pay attention to the number of these placement changes. Stability increases a child’s ability to develop healthy, secure relationships and maintain educational achievement. It also increases the opportunity for a child to develop positive, caring relationships with their foster caregivers. Such relationships sometimes result in a child becoming a permanent member of the family when returning home is not possible. It also should be noted that individual placement changes can

be made for positive reasons such as a child moving from a group home to a relative home or to a placement with siblings. As shown in Figure 10, placement stability has improved, decreasing from 4.35 moves per 1,000 days in FY 2009-10 to 3.78 moves per 1,000 days in FY 2014-15, achieving the national goal of 4.12 or fewer. The increase in relative/kin placements may be a contributing factor to the improvement in placement stability.

Figure 10: Placement stability

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014	Jul 2014- Jun 2015
Number of placement moves	per 1,000 days	4.35	4.14	4.06	3.83	3.82	3.78
	n	20,388	19,759	18,513	18,282	19,215	18,673
Foster care days (children with entries)	N	4,683,448	4,775,462	4,555,625	4,779,379	5,028,093	4,939,630

Agency: All, Number of Days in Care: 8 days or more, Rate per 1,000 days

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/P5.aspx

2.5 - Median Length of Stay

This measure describes the median amount of time children spend in foster care. Length of stay is counted in days and the median number of days reflects how much time it takes half (50 percent) of the children who entered foster care during a calendar year to exit from care. This measure is a useful way to summarize, with a single number, what might be considered a “characteristic” length of stay in foster care. The median differs from the average in that it reduces the effect of outliers such as those children who are in care for very long or very brief periods.

Since foster care is intended to be a temporary intervention for children until they can return home safely or leave foster care for a permanent family, this measure tracks whether or not children who enter foster care exit from care in a timely manner. Median length of stay for children entering care is presented in Figure 11. Among children entering care between 2007 and 2009, the median length of stay remained relatively stable at just below 400 days. However, after 2009 the length of stay began to get longer, with a 23-day increase in 2010, another slight increase in 2011, and a larger 29-day increase in 2012.

Figure 11: Median length of stay, in days

		Jan-Dec 2007	Jan-Dec 2008	Jan-Dec 2009	Jan-Dec 2010	Jan-Dec 2011	Jan-Dec 2012
Median length of stay	Days	399	396	396	418	421	450
Sample size	N	25,256	22,554	21,731	21,482	21,227	22,026

Agency: Child Welfare; Episode Count: First Entry; Number of Days in Care: 8 days or more;

Age: 0-17 Years; Days to exit or 18th birthday, whichever first

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/stay.aspx

3: Permanency Constellation

When children enter out-of-home care, the central goal of the child welfare or probation agency is to provide children with safe, permanent, and stable homes. The constellations of permanency outcomes illustrate the types of exits and lengths of time children spend in foster care prior to their exit for the following reasons:

- Reunification
- Adoption
- Guardianship

When a child has been removed from his or her family, the most desirable goal is to return that child home as soon as it is safe. When that is not possible, the goal is most often to achieve a permanent family through adoption or guardianship.

3.1 - Realignment of Adoption Services

In response to the 2011 realignment of CWS, 12 of the 28 counties that previously contracted with CDSS for adoption services opted to transition their program from the state to the local level. This programmatic transition occurred over a period of 18 months, with the last of these 12 counties assuming full responsibility for their program effective July 1, 2013. To date, none of the other counties have opted to transition their adoption program from the state to the local level. With implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform and the Resource Family Approval program¹¹, several counties are now considering transitioning their adoption program from the state to the local level. However, no decisions have been made yet. As indicated by the permanency data presented in the figures below, the number of foster youth exiting from care to adoption remains relatively stable. Although it is too early to draw conclusions, this data may indicate that the realignment of adoption services (for those counties that opted to transition their program from the state to the local level) has not affected the number of foster youth exiting from care to adoption.

¹¹ Continuum of Care Reform (CCR) is a comprehensive reform effort to make sure that youth in foster care have their day-to-day physical, mental, and emotional needs met; that they have the greatest chance to grow up in permanent and supportive homes; and that they have the opportunity to grow into self-sufficient, successful adults. A key component of CCR is the Resource Family Approval (RFA) program which is a new family-friendly and child-centered caregiver approval process that combines elements of the current foster parent licensing, relative approval, and approvals for adoption and guardianship and streamlines them into one process.

3.2 - Permanency in 12 months for children entering foster care (P1)

This measure describes if and how children achieved permanency within 12 months of entering foster care. Specifically, it examines a cohort of children who entered foster care during a 12-month period, follows them prospectively for one year, and identifies the proportion who achieved permanency through reunification, adoption, or guardianship. Previously, this measure focused only on the achievement of permanency for children through reunification and only those children who had been removed from home for the first time, over a six-month rather than a twelve-month period. This new measure allows for a more holistic view of a 12-month entry cohort for all permanency outcomes (reunification, adoption and guardianship), more accurately reflecting trends and performance in achieving permanency.

As shown in Figure 12, this measure has been decreasing steadily over time with 35.5 percent of children exiting foster care to permanency within 12 months of entering care in FY 2013-14. The national standard for this measure is set at 40.5 percent or above.

In addition to a statewide decline in this measure since FY 2009-10, there are county-specific trends, and several medium to large counties have experienced more rapid declines than the statewide decline. Additionally, there are trends in this measure associated with specific age groups. Children aged 13 to 17 and infants under the age of one have been exiting foster care at lower rates when compared to other age groups.

Figure 12: Permanency within 12 months for 12-month entry cohort

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014
Exited to permanency within 12 months	%	40.9%	39.7%	37.6%	36.0%	35.5%
	n	12,511	12,146	11,210	11,192	11,325
Entries during 12-month period	N	30,567	30,628	29,798	31,123	31,889
Reunification	%	38.7%	37.3%	34.8%	33.2%	32.8%
	n	11,829	11,422	10,369	10,343	10,459
Adoption	%	1.1%	1.0%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%
	n	324	298	322	317	315
Guardianship	%	1.2%	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%	1.7%
	n	358	426	519	532	551

Agency: All Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015

Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/P1.aspx

3.3 - Permanency in 12 months for children in foster care for 12 to 23 months (P2)

This measure describes the percentage of children who achieved permanency within a 12-month period and had been in foster care between 12 and 23 months on the first day of that period. Figure 13 demonstrates that exits from care to permanency for this group have remained relatively stable, ranging from 44 to 46 percent over the past six years. California surpasses the national standard for this measure, which is set at 43.6 percent. The data in this measure also show that the number of youth exiting care due to reunification is steadily declining over time. However, the number of youth in this cohort exiting foster care due to adoption or guardianship is increasing over time.

Figure 13: Permanency within 12 months for children in foster care for 12-23 months

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014	Jul 2014- Jun 2015
Exited to permanency within 12 months	%	44.9%	44.5%	45.5%	46.0%	45.4%	45.0%
	n	5,583	5,226	5,281	5,481	5,597	5,909
In care 12 to 23 months	N	12,424	11,752	11,615	11,905	12,333	13,124
Reunification	%	20.8%	20.6%	19.7%	18.8%	18.8%	18.0%
	n	2,582	2,422	2,283	2,235	2,318	2,358
Adoption	%	16.8%	16.8%	17.9%	17.6%	18.3%	18.2%
	n	2,086	1,970	2,076	2,092	2,260	2,388
Guardianship	%	7.4%	7.1%	7.9%	9.7%	8.3%	8.9%
	n	915	834	922	1,154	1,019	1,163

Agency: All, Age: 0-17
Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS
2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/P2.aspx

3.4 - Permanency within 12 months for children in care for 24 months or more (P3)

This measure identifies children who were in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of a given 12-month period, in order to determine how many exited foster care to permanency before the end of that 12-month period. The methodology for this measure has not changed, but it is now evaluated on its own. This measure is used to evaluate performance in achieving permanency for children who are in foster care for longer periods of time.

As evidenced by Figure 14, exits from foster care to permanency for this cohort reached a high of 27.9 percent in FY 2014-15 after fluctuating above and below 24 percent for the past five years. Despite this increase, California still falls short of the national standard of 30.3 percent or higher. For this measure, the number of youth exiting care due to reunification is steadily declining over time, while the number of youth exiting care due to adoption increased from 17.3 percent in FY 2009-10 to 19 percent in FY 2014-15 and guardianships increased from 4 percent to 4.9 percent over the same time period.

Figure 14: Permanency within 12 months for children in foster 24 months or longer

		Jul 2009- Jun 2010	Jul 2010- Jun 2011	Jul 2011- Jun 2012	Jul 2012- Jun 2013	Jul 2013- Jun 2014	Jul 2014- Jun 2015
Exited to permanency within 12 months	%	25.9%	23.5%	25.2%	25.1%	24.7%	27.9%
	n	5,853	4,507	4,339	3,866	3,581	4,040
In care 24 months or more	N	22,624	19,216	17,189	15,392	14,506	14,489
Reunification	%	4.5%	4.7%	4.4%	4.2%	3.9%	3.9%
	n	1,028	903	751	646	560	564
Adoption	%	17.3%	14.4%	16.5%	16.0%	16.1%	19.0%
	n	3,915	2,765	2,835	2,461	2,338	2,760
Guardianship	%	4.0%	4.4%	4.4%	4.9%	4.7%	4.9%
	n	910	839	753	759	683	716

Agency: All, Age: 0-17
Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS
2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/P3.aspx

It is worth noting that when these cohorts exit foster care to permanent living situations, they exit to different types of permanency at different rates depending on how long they have been in care. For instance, children who exit to permanency within 12 months of entering care do so through reunification about 92 percent of the time and through adoption just under 3 percent of the time. Children who were in care between 12 and 23 months exited to reunification and adoption at nearly equal rates. Finally, just 14 percent of children who found permanency after being in care for 24 months or longer exited through reunification while 68 percent exited through adoption. This trend clearly demonstrates that the longer a child stays in foster care, the more likely he or she will find a permanent family through adoption as opposed to reunification. This trend may be attributed to federal and state time limits for providing families with reunification services. In California, reunification services are typically provided for 18 months. After that time, reunification services are terminated and county CWS agencies proceed with securing other permanency options for these children through guardianship or adoption.

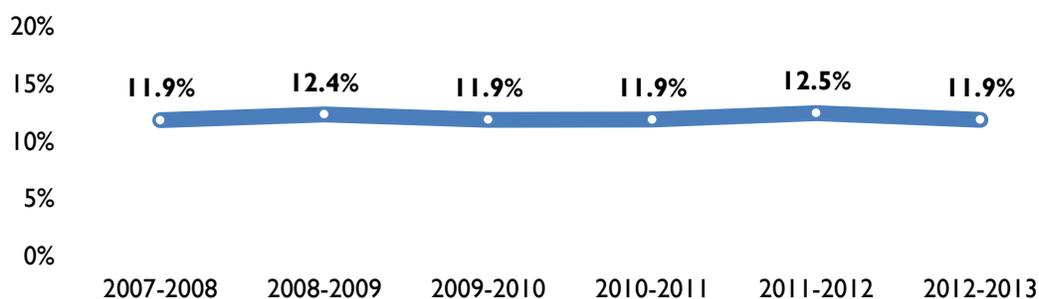
3.5 - Reentry within 12 months for entries discharged to reunification or guardianship (P4)

The reentry measure describes the percentage of children (0-17 years old) reentering foster care within a year of returning to their families or being placed in the care of a legal guardian. This measure has changed to make the denominator all children entering foster care in a 12-month period (entry cohort), rather than all children exiting within a year regardless of when they entered care. Also, this measure now includes exits from care to guardianship and reunification, rather than reunification only. For children who experience multiple re-entries into foster care, only the first re-entry is counted.

Foster care reentry rates following reunification provide helpful information in determining whether or not child welfare policies and practices are effective in successfully transitioning children back into their families of origin or with another legal guardian and whether the services being provided to these children and families during reunification are effective. As seen in Figure 15, although reentry peaked at 12.5 percent in 2011-12, it is back down to 11.9 percent for 2012-13. The national standard is 8.3 percent or less children reentering care within 12 months following reunification or guardianship.

Upon further examination of child welfare data (not reflected in this report), higher rates of reentry are clustered in two groups: children under the age of three and children between the ages of 13 and 16. Probation youth also reenter foster care at a slightly higher rate than those from child welfare. Additionally, African American and Native American children reenter care at higher rates than other racial/ethnic groups.

Figure 15: Reentry within 12 months for entries discharged to reunification or guardianship



Agency: All, Episode Count: All Entry, Number of Days in Care: 8 days or more,

Age: 0-17 Years

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2015 Quarter 3 Extract.

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/P4.aspx

3.6 - Status at Exit for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care

This set of data tracks the status of foster youth when they exit foster care at age 18 or older while still under the jurisdiction of the court. Foster youth who have legally emancipated from foster care before the age of 18 are also included in this measure. The data in Figure 16 reflect changes in youth exiting care with the implementation of the After 18 Program (AB 12), the extension of foster care benefits beyond age 18 up to the age of 21. This means fewer youth are exiting foster care at age 18; therefore, there are fewer youth included in the current data. The information gathered on this population is reported in percentages and is grouped into the following five categories:

Educational Achievement is a measure of the percentage of foster youth who exit with a high school diploma or its equivalent. This does not include youth who have passed proficiency exams or obtained certificates.

Employment is a measure of the percentage of foster youth who are employed on a full-time or part-time basis upon leaving foster care. Employment is important as work experience will help youth build résumés for future employment. However, it is not expected that all youth would need full-time employment to support themselves, as some may enter college or vocational school.

Housing arrangements is a measure of the percentage of foster youth who have any type of housing plan for leaving care, including plans such as living rent-free with friends, living with a biological parent, or arrangements for subsidized or transitional housing.

Permanency connection is a measure of the percentage of foster youth who report having at least one adult they can go to for advice, support, and guidance.

An Independent Living Program (ILP) service is a measure of the percentage of youth who received ILP services prior to exiting foster care. Counties are required to offer ILP services to youth who are age 16 and older. However, youth participation in ILP is voluntary.

As shown in Figure 16, the majority of foster youth exit care having completed high school or its equivalent, with housing arrangements and a permanency connection. The implementation of the After 18 Program in 2012, whereby a greater number of foster youth may elect to pursue college or vocational school in lieu of employment as a requirement to participate in the program, may be a factor contributing to the low number of foster youth having obtained employment at the time of their exit from care.

Figure 16: Status at exit of youth aging out of foster care

		Apr-Jun 2014	Jul-Sep 2014
Completed high school or its equivalent	%	51%	56%
	n	489	526
Youth with housing arrangements	%	71%	70%
	n	672	654
Youth who are Employed	%	40%	37%
	n	385	344
Youth with permanency connection	%	71%	72%
	n	671	670
Whereabouts known during time period	N	951	935

Agency: All

Data Sources:

Child Welfare: The Outcomes for Nonminor Dependents Child Welfare Youth Exiting Foster Care Quarterly Statistical Report SOC 405X

Probation: The Outcomes for Nonminor Dependents Probation Foster Youth Exiting Foster Care Quarterly Statistical Report SOC 405XP

http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare/CDSSFiles.aspx?report=8A

COUNTY REALIGNMENT GROWTH FUNDS & CWS STAFFING

The SB 855 (Committee of Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 29, Statutes of 2014) amended W&IC section 10104 to require this annual realignment report to include, to the extent information is readily and publicly available, the amount of realignment growth funds each county receives, the CWS social worker caseloads for each county, and the number of authorized positions in each county CWS agency. This information is displayed below in two sections: 1.) county realignment growth funds; and 2.) CWS county staffing.

1: County Realignment Growth Funds

In addition to the Protective Services Subaccount base funding each county receives, pursuant to Government Code (GC) Section 30027.6, the SCO distributes realignment growth funds to each county annually.

Pursuant to GC Section 30027.5 and 30027.9, funding from the LRF 2011 is allocated as follows:

- To the Support Services Account; 63 percent is then allocated to the Protective Services Subaccount.
- To the Sales and Use Tax Growth Account; 65 percent is then allocated to the Support Services Growth Subaccount.

The following allocations are made from the Support Services Growth Subaccount to the Protective Services Growth Special Account:

- 40 percent is designated for CWS until the Department of Finance (DOF) certifies that a total of \$200 million has been allocated.
- 21.81 percent is for general growth.

Realignment growth funds are calculated by DOF and a schedule that allocates funding to the subaccount is submitted to SCO.

The GC section 30025 provides that the money in the Protective Services Subaccount and the Protective Services Growth Special Account may be used for CWS costs as described in statute, regulation and the Title IV-E Waiver Demonstration Capped Allocation Project. This includes the use of these funds to hire additional CWS staff or provide additional funds to support various CWS programs.

Below is the county-by-county break-out of total Protective Services Growth Special Account funding (growth funds) allocated from SCO for FY 2013-14.

County	Total FY 13-14 Growth Funds Allocation
Alameda	\$4,813,558.66

Alpine	\$62,658.53
Amador	\$91,148.72
Butte	\$905,488.48
Calaveras	\$157,514.66
Colusa	\$88,183.79
Contra Costa	\$2,748,713.70
Del Norte	\$236,108.93
El Dorado	\$450,125.56
Fresno	\$2,555,361.62
Glenn	\$191,647.57
Humboldt	\$634,285.56
Imperial	\$614,036.43
Inyo	\$101,997.50
Kern	\$3,042,776.81
Kings	\$455,601.26
Lake	\$225,869.89
Lassen	\$169,055.40
Los Angeles	\$36,173,770.17
Madera	\$405,556.56
Marin	\$347,593.50
Mariposa	\$116,121.56
Mendocino	\$600,833.74
Merced	\$816,321.28
Modoc	\$70,722.81
Mono	\$72,821.38
Monterey	\$846,981.73
Napa	\$321,786.36

Nevada	\$175,702.51
Orange	\$5,934,400.27
Placer	\$1,016,136.69
Plumas	\$119,347.23
Riverside	\$6,491,168.43
Sacramento	\$5,636,352.36
San Benito	\$145,706.46
San Bernardino	\$5,339,031.00
San Diego	\$8,584,993.67
San Francisco	\$2,305,790.06
San Joaquin	\$2,022,922.03
San Luis Obispo	\$949,994.43
San Mateo	\$1,270,821.07
Santa Barbara	\$799,374.53
Santa Clara	\$4,742,431.33
Santa Cruz	\$582,833.90
Shasta	\$625,086.78
Sierra	\$61,752.32
Siskiyou	\$186,411.79
Solano	\$738,402.73
Sonoma	\$1,161,212.73
Stanislaus	\$1,346,246.85
Sutter	\$341,193.29
Tehama	\$328,067.11
Trinity	\$161,803.42
Tulare	\$1,390,197.39

Tuolumne	\$177,840.81
Ventura	\$1,204,669.11
Yolo	\$435,370.28
Yuba	\$424,811.48

Information from counties related to realignment growth funds indicates that overall county spending for Foster Care Assistance, APS and the After 18 program is steadily increasing and that counties are using their SCO growth fund allocations to cover this increase. In addition, counties indicate they have used their growth fund allocations to hire additional CWS and APS staff. The CDSS is working closely with counties to capture information related to realignment growth funds, including the development of a fiscal display specific to LRF spending, and will include this additional information in future year reports.

2: CWS County Staffing

The SB 855 requires CDSS to provide county caseload and staffing information, if this information is publicly and readily available. The table below provides county-specific data on the total number of CWS cases, the total number of CWS investigations, the total number of authorized CWS social worker positions, the total number of CWS case-carrying social workers and the total number of CWS non-case-carrying workers.

The information displayed below is from the CSAs submitted to CDSS as part of the C-CFSR process. The CSAs span seven years beginning with 2009. In some instances, counties chose to update this information with current information for 2016. Some of the information contained in the CSAs makes it difficult to determine the exact number of CWS case-carrying social workers as well as the total number of authorized CWS social worker positions. For this reason, conclusions should not be drawn from this data.

In the table below, the number of cases corresponds to the reporting year and includes all open CWS cases (both in-home and foster care). The total number of investigations includes all referrals in which allegations met the investigation threshold per California's Emergency ER Protocol. For total authorized positions, this information includes all authorized CWS social worker positions including case-carrying and non-case-carrying social workers, support staff, supervisors and managers. For case-carrying social workers, this information includes social workers with an active caseload in hotline, ER (immediate and ten day), family maintenance (voluntary and court-ordered), permanency planning, adoptions and extended foster care (After 18 programs). The non-case-carrying social worker information includes specialized positions, such as educational liaisons, child and family team facilitators, court writers, licensing and relative home approval staff, quality assurance staff, etc.

County	Reporting Year	Number of Cases*	Number of Investigations **	Total Number of Authorized Positions ***	Total Number of Case Carrying Workers ***	Total Number of Non-Case Carrying Workers ****	Total Number of Supervisor/ Management Staff*****	Total Number of Support Staff*****
Alameda	2016	2,238	4,712	267	236	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Alpine	2013	0	2	Not Provided	1	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Amador	2016	115	300	12	7	1	2	2
Butte	2016	719	1,195	144	70	18	28	33
Calaveras	2016	150	264	17	11	1	1 F/T; 2 with other duties	2
Colusa	2016	39	117	9	4	1	2	2
Contra Costa	2016	1,486	3,279	355	185.5	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Del Norte	2016	156	424	33	11	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
El Dorado	2015	417	1,078	75	34	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Fresno	2016	2,748	7,506	533	218	93	62	160
Glenn	2015	137	286	21	12	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Humboldt	2015	494	929	116	44	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Imperial	2011	344	1,193	81	43	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Inyo	2009	52	174	9	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Kern	2016	2,334	7,090	484	244	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Kings	2011	373	1,277	59	34	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Lake	2015	181	431	45	21	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Lassen	2011	71	320	16	8	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Los Angeles	2011	37,278	66,959	7,323	3,511	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Madera	2016	436	1,624	Not Provided	37	5	10	10
Marin	2016	142	556	54	24	12	10	9

Mariposa	2016	38	97	13	7	0	2	4
Mendocino	2016	382	1,090	144	33	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Merced	2015	862	2,300	133	63	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Modoc	2009	14	154	Not Provided				
Mono	2015	26	104	7	5	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Monterey	2015	503	1,802	71	59	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Napa	2015	193	465	57	21	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Nevada	2011	149	613	16	9	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Orange	2015	3,389	12,811	627	337	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Placer	2016	433	1,712	47	26	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Plumas	2011	78	115	13.5	5	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Riverside	2016	6,141	21,019	1073	498	64	149	235
Sacramento	2015	4,080	11,669	785	436	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Benito	2016	85	284	17.5	12	.5	3	2
San Bernardino	2015	6,303	20,344	866	460	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Diego	2016	4,482	22,585	1,364	505	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Francisco	2016	1,407	2,142	400	145	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Joaquin	2015	1,950	4,838	193	119	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Luis Obispo	2015	454	1,848	135	57	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
San Mateo	2016	634	2,320	211	78	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Santa Barbara	2015	708	3,125	132	67	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Santa Clara	2016	2,057	7,459	482	284	117	81	109
Santa Cruz	2010	509	1,576	87	57	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Shasta	2016	583	2,015	139	59.5	16.5	20	43

Sierra	2010	11	47	5	4	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Siskiyou	2016	146	505	26	12	3	5	6
Solano	2016	633	1,844	134	56	13	23	25
Sonoma	2010	775	2,105	184.5	68	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Stanislaus	2015	1,174	3,153	109	102	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Sutter	2015	202	361	28	19	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Tehama	2016	293	570	38	22	3	7	6
Trinity	2013	89	105	12	5	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Tulare	2016	1,551	5,461	230.5	141	17	20.5	52
Tuolumne	2016	137	282	28.75	14	5	5.75	6
Ventura	2016	1,190	5,435	359	147	Not Provided	Not Provided	Not Provided
Yolo	2016	370	823	72	33 filled, 40 allocated	10	11	11
Yuba	2016	298	476	46	20	4	9	13

* Caseload based on October 1 for the reporting year. (Exception: Reporting Year 2016, caseloads are as of October 2015.)

**Investigations based on FFY for the reporting year. (Exception: Reporting Year 2016, investigations are as of FFY 2015.)

***Total number of authorized positions and case carrying workers as identified in CSAs submitted to CDSS from 2009-2015, or as provided to CDSS by counties choosing to update this information.

****Total number of non-case carrying workers, supervisor/management and support staff as provided to CDSS by counties choosing to update this information.

REALIGNMENT EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

For this year's report, the Realignment Expenditures Summary (Attachment A) has been modified from previous year's reports to group the statewide LRF and county fiscal expenditures by to clearly delineate the expenditures by assistance payments, federally required services, optional state services, adult protective services, county case management, and Title IV-E Waiver. A break out of the programs that fall into these categories is provided below. County-level expenditures by program are also included in Attachment A.

Assistance - This category reflects expenditures for payments to foster care providers, including:

- Adoptions Assistance Program (AAP)
- After 18 (inclusive of SILPs and THP + FC)
- Federal Guardian Assistance Program (Fed-GAP) Assistance
- Foster Care Assistance

Federally Required Services - This category reflects expenditures for federally required child welfare services, including:

- Adoptions
- County Third Party Contracts
- Child Welfare Services - Services
- Extended Independent Living Program
- Foster Care Administration
- Foster Parent Training & Recruitment (FPT&R)
- Group Home Monthly Visits (GHMV)
- Kinship Foster Care Emergency Fund

Optional State Services - This category reflects expenditures for optional state programs in which counties have discretion as to whether or not they provide these services, including:

- CWS Outcome Improvement Project (CWSOIP)
- Emancipated Foster Youth Stipends (EYS)
- Kinship Support Services Program (KSSP)
- LRF Family Preservation Permanent Transfer (SFP)
- Substance Abuse/Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infant (SA/HIV Infant)
- Supportive Therapeutic Options Program (STOP)
- Transitional Housing for Foster Youth (THPP)
- Transitional Housing for Former Foster Youth – Plus (THPP-Plus)

Adult Protective Services (APS) - See information in “Adult Protective Services” section on page 38.

County Case Management - This category reflects expenditures for administrative costs for case management activities provided by county staff.

- Child Welfare Services Basic

Title IV-E Well-Being Project - This category reflects the expenditures for the nine counties participating the California Title IV-E Well-Being Project (formerly referred to as the Title IV-E Waiver project), which provides California with the flexibility to invest existing resources more effectively in proven and innovative approaches that better ensure the safety of children and the success of families. This flexibility gives counties the opportunity to reinvest resources into more cost-efficient approaches that achieve better outcomes. The target population includes children and youth aged 0–17, inclusive, who currently are in out-of-home placement or are at risk of entering or re-entering foster care. California’s Title IV-E Well-Being Project began on July 1, 2007, with Alameda and Los Angeles counties, and continued under three short-term

bridge extensions until September 30, 2014. On September 29, 2014, the federal government approved a five-year extension and expansion of the Title IV-E Well-Being Project, for seven additional counties (Butte, Lake, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and Sonoma), through September 30, 2019. The evaluation report for the Title IV-E Well-Being Project can be found at <http://www.childsworld.ca.gov/PG1333.htm>. For this year's report, the fiscal expenditures for all nine counties participating in the Title IV-E Well-Being Project are grouped together and include expenditures related to Foster Care Assistance, FPT&R, GHMV, Kinship FC Emergency Fund, CWSOIP and County Case Management. Prior to this year's report, the expenditures for the programs listed above are reflected in their respective line items. Changes to the display and modifications to capture more specific details around the Title IV-E Well-Being Project expenditures are being explored for inclusion in future year reports.

FY 2014-2015 Expenditure Summary

In FY 2014-15, LRF statewide distributions were \$1.97 billion, an increase of \$134 million over the FY 2013-14 distribution of \$1.8 billion. The FY 2011-12 total budgeted base¹² was approximately \$1.62 billion.

Expenditures for FY 2013-14, include supplemental adjustment claims submitted by counties and are now final. Since FY 2013-14 expenditures have been updated and finalized, the totals may differ from those presented in last year's realignment report. FY 2014-15 expenditures reflect those reported as of November 2015 and are not yet final, as counties may submit revisions for up to nine months after the end of each quarter. For this reason, comparing FY 2014-15 expenditures with previous year's expenditures may not provide an accurate depiction of county spending since the FY 14-15 expenditures are not final. For example, in FY 2012-13, one large county reported expenditures of just one percent of funding for the Supportive Therapeutic Options Program (STOP) as of November 2013. By the end of the nine-month period after the end of FY 2012-13, however, the county had submitted supplemental claims for all of the remaining funds for STOP.

Based on a comparison of LRF and county expenditures in FY 2011-12 (the first FY after realignment went into effect) and FY 2014-15, there has been a consistent increase in net total spending, with FY 2011-12 net expenditures totaling \$2.9 billion and FY 2014-15 expenditures totaling \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$327 million. Since FY 2011-12, there has been steady growth in spending in the Assistance and Title IV-E Well-Being Project expenditure categories, with steady decreases in spending in the Optional State Services category. The expenditure categories of Federally-Required Services and County Case Management saw increases in spending in FY 2011-12 and FY 13-14 followed by a decline in spending in FY 2014-15. However, as noted above, there may be future adjustments in FY 2014-15 expenditures that increase final spending to the same or even higher levels than FY 2013-14.

As reported in last year's realignment report, some programs that experienced a decline in expenditures in FY 2012-13 experienced an increase in expenditures in FY 2013-14 and spending has continued to increase in FY 2014-15. Programs with an increase in expenditures in FY 2014-15 are:

¹² Budgeted base refers to the total amount of State General Fund that was realigned to counties with the passage of the Budget Act of 2011.

- EYS – Since FY 2012-13 statewide spending has increased by \$485,000, or 71 percent. Twenty-one smaller counties, which probably had no youth in care eligible for the program, did not claim any expenditures for this program. The total increase in EYS expenditures likely resulted from statutory amendments and policy clarifications issued by CDSS in 2012 that allowed counties to claim EYS for non-minor dependent (NMD) youth (those who are between 18 to 21 years old) still in care.
- Fed-GAP Assistance – Since FY 2012-13, statewide spending has increased by \$ 10 million, or 47 percent. Forty-two counties increased their Fed-GAP spending in FY 2014-15. The most notable increase was in a large county, which increased its spending by \$3 million in FY 2013-14 and continued to increase spending in FY 2014-15 by an additional \$2.6 million. Four small counties began claiming Fed-GAP expenditures for the first time in FY 2014-15. The overall increase in statewide Fed-GAP spending may be attributed to an increase in eligible Fed-GAP cases. Approximately every six months, there is a two percent increase in the Fed-GAP caseload, largely driven by an increased caseload in Los Angeles County.
- ILP – Since FY 12-13 statewide spending has increased by \$3.5 million, or 27 percent. Thirty-four counties increased their ILP spending in FY 2014-15. The most notable increase was in a large county, which increased its spending by \$481,000, or 93 percent. Two small counties began claiming ILP expenditures for the first time in FY 2014-15. The overall increase in statewide ILP spending may be attributed to outreach efforts by CDSS to the counties on data entry and clarification about eligible ILP services. In addition, CDSS issued policy clarifications to notify counties they are required to engage eligible NMD youth in ILP services within certain timeframes. Although ILP eligibility has always been up to the age of 21, NMD youth who stay in extended foster care are more likely to access ILP services than those who leave care. Since 2013, there has been an increase of approximately 29 percent in the number of NMD youth in foster care.

In addition to the increase in expenditures for the programs listed above, counties have steadily increased expenditures for some programs across all four FYs and continue to increase their expenditures in FY 2014-15. These programs are AAP, After 18, Adoptions and KSSP.

As with prior year realignment reports, counties have continued to spend less on some optional programs:

- STOP – Since realignment went into effect in FY 2011-12, there has been a total decrease in statewide spending for the STOP program of \$1.3 million, or 11 percent. Ten mid- to large-sized counties decreased STOP spending over multiple FYs. The most notable decrease was a large county, which decreased spending between FY 2011-12 to FY 2014-15 from \$1.4 million to \$553,000, a decrease of 61 percent. Eleven counties do not claim any STOP expenditures. Information from counties suggests that these decreases are not the result of programmatic changes or utilization decreases. Rather, staffing turnover has resulted in some claiming issues as well as delayed claims submission from some counties. It is likely that STOP expenditures will increase for FY 2014-15 when expenditures are finalized. For example, in comparing STOP expenditures for FY 2013-14 provided in last year’s realignment report with the finalized FY 2013-14 expenditures, total STOP spending was roughly six percent higher than initially reported.
- THP-Plus – Since realignment went into effect in FY 2011-12, there has been a total decline in statewide spending for THP-Plus of \$6.7 million, or 21 percent. Nine mid- to large-sized

counties decreased THP-Plus spending in THP-Plus over multiple FYs. The most notable decrease was in a large county, which decreased spending from \$1.2 million to \$1 million, a 17 percent decrease. Another large county decreased its THP-Plus spending from \$5 million to \$4.1 million, an 18 percent decrease. Seven counties do not claim any THP-Plus expenditures. As previously reported, the decrease in THP-Plus spending is believed to be caused in part by the implementation of the After 18 Program, which allows NMD youth to remain in care up to the age of 21. Information from counties also suggests that a lack of THP-Plus providers as well as a lack of available housing and high housing costs in some California counties also have contributed to the decline in THP-Plus expenditures.

Previous realignment reports noted consistent statewide decreases in THPP expenditures. However, expenditures for FY 2014-15 increased by 13 percent increase compared to FY 2013-14. Fourteen counties claimed THPP expenditures, four of which increased their spending. The most notable increase was in a large county, which increased spending from \$195,000 to \$337,000, an increase of 73 percent. Information from this county suggests this increase in expenditures for FY 2014-15 is due to an increase in the number of available beds for the program, from 876 available beds in FY 2013-14 to 1,692 beds in FY 2014-15. This is an increase of 93 percent.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

The APS program investigates over 150,000¹³ reports of elder and dependent adult abuse each year in California, at an annual total cost of approximately \$126 million in FY 2013-14. The program's mandate is to investigate and provide remediation to any elderly or disabled person living in the community who is alleged to be experiencing abuse, neglect or exploitation. Cases range from simple situations such as providing food for a person who has lost their wallet to extremely complex situations with financial abuse involving property transfers and money laundering through multiple accounts. A simple case may become complex when the client is found to have a condition that makes it unsafe for him or her to continue to live alone or handle his or her own affairs.

¹³ All figures regarding reports received and findings of abuse are derived from the monthly SOC 242 reports from the counties.

Average case closure timeframes for FY 2014-15 were as follows:

Cases closed in less than 30 days.....	51% of all closed cases
Cases closed in 30 days or more, but less than 60 days.....	29% of all closed cases
Cases closed in 60 days or more, but less than 90 days.....	10% of all closed cases
Cases closed in 90 days or more, but less than 180 days.....	7% of all closed cases
Cases closed in 180 days or more.....	3% of all closed cases

Changes in Demographics

Persons 65 and older (elders) make up 12.9 percent¹⁴ of California’s population. Currently, there are over 5.1 million elders in California. By 2030, elders will make up almost one-fifth of the state’s population¹⁵, growing twice as fast as the rest of the population¹⁶. The number of dependent adults with disabilities is expected to increase by 20 percent in the next 20 years.

According to a recent report by the California Senate Select Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care: *“The elderly age group will have an overall increase of 112 percent during the period from 1990 to 2020. More than half the counties will have over a 100 percent increase in this age group. Eleven of these counties will have growth rates of over 150 percent.”*

These increases in the population served by APS must be considered both when evaluating changes since realignment and planning for the future of the APS program. Additionally, many elders and dependent adults are choosing to live in the community rather than in institutional settings. APS is the only state agency with responsibility for overseeing the care they receive in their own homes. It provides a critical safety net to allow these vulnerable adults to remain safely at home and in their communities.

Changes in APS Expenditures since Realignment

Due to the implementation of 2011 realignment LRF for the APS program are part of each county’s Protective Services Account. This gives each county the flexibility to fund various Child and Adult Protective Services programs based on the county’s individual service needs. The APS expenditures reported by counties increased five percent statewide from FY 2011-12 (\$119 million) to FY 2013-14 (\$126 million). Chart 1 displays county-specific APS expenditures for FY 2011-12 and FY 2013-14 by county size (large, medium, small and very small).

¹⁴ US Census, 2010

¹⁵ “A Shattered System: Reforming Long-Term Care in California: Envisioning and implementing and IDEAL Long-Term Care System in California,” 2015

¹⁶ http://www.aging.ca.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Facts_About_Elderly

Chart 1
Changes in Total Expenditures for APS since Realignment
(Counties listed by size categories)

COUNTIES	FY 2011-12 Expenditures*	FY 2013-14 Expenditures*	Amount Changed	Percentage Changed
Large Counties**				
ALAMEDA	\$6,286,835	\$7,181,284	\$894,449	14.23%
CONTRA COSTA	\$1,931,055	\$2,650,380	\$719,325	37.25%
FRESNO	\$1,926,870	\$1,925,529	(\$1,341)	-0.07%
KERN	\$1,164,687	\$1,494,678	\$329,991	28.33%
LOS ANGELES	\$31,066,160	\$29,156,041	(\$1,910,119)	-6.15%
ORANGE	\$5,797,692	\$6,475,793	\$678,101	11.70%
RIVERSIDE	\$3,603,405	\$4,549,445	\$946,040	26.25%
SACRAMENTO	\$5,294,030	\$6,145,970	\$851,940	16.09%
SAN BERNARDINO	\$2,661,326	\$2,969,144	\$307,818	11.57%
SAN DIEGO	\$5,336,953	\$6,829,243	\$1,492,290	27.96%
SAN FRANCISCO	\$19,800,011	\$19,278,278	(\$521,733)	-2.64%
SAN JOAQUIN	\$913,073	\$954,494	\$41,421	4.54%
SANTA CLARA	\$9,774,744	\$10,830,493	\$1,055,749	10.80%
TULARE	\$500,757	\$737,484	\$236,727	47.27%
Medium Counties**				
BUTTE	\$762,766	\$716,444	(\$46,322)	-6.07%
EL DORADO	\$224,929	\$298,440	\$73,511	32.68%
HUMBOLDT	\$821,524	\$823,553	\$2,029	0.25%
IMPERIAL	\$400,476	\$364,833	(\$35,643)	-8.90%
KINGS	\$189,311	\$220,453	\$31,142	16.45%
MADERA	\$227,160	\$275,190	\$48,030	21.14%
MARIN	\$1,471,315	\$1,316,336	(\$154,979)	-10.53%
MENDOCINO	\$829,878	\$846,828	\$16,950	2.04%
MERCED	\$544,680	\$494,921	(\$49,759)	-9.14%
MONTEREY	\$1,601,002	\$1,644,061	\$43,059	2.69%
NAPA	\$439,624	\$523,871	\$84,247	19.16%
PLACER	\$1,934,522	\$1,500,075	(\$434,447)	-22.46%
SAN LUIS OBISPO	\$659,833	\$402,870	(\$256,963)	-38.94%
SAN MATEO	\$2,298,509	\$2,440,823	\$142,314	6.19%
SANTA BARBARA	\$955,429	\$1,150,327	\$194,898	20.40%
SANTA CRUZ	\$403,027	\$588,775	\$185,748	46.09%
SHASTA	\$728,654	\$708,002	(\$20,652)	-2.83%
SOLANO	\$1,298,039	\$1,423,971	\$125,932	9.70%
SONOMA	\$1,729,716	\$2,620,761	\$891,045	51.51%
STANISLAUS	\$694,469	\$812,610	\$118,141	17.01%
SUTTER	\$132,032	\$116,079	(\$15,953)	-12.08%
VENTURA	\$2,361,915	\$2,366,100	\$4,185	0.18%
YOLO	\$361,264	\$266,061	(\$95,203)	-26.35%
YUBA	\$170,359	\$176,364	\$6,005	3.52%
Small Counties**				
CALAVERAS	\$161,383	\$193,159	\$31,776	19.69%
DEL NORTE	\$111,259	\$119,688	\$8,429	7.58%
LAKE	\$144,871	\$317,602	\$172,731	119.23%
NEVADA	\$313,457	\$292,965	(\$20,492)	-6.54%
SAN BENITO	\$110,113	\$146,528	\$36,415	33.07%
SISKIYOU	\$62,153	\$148,137	\$85,984	138.34%
TEHAMA	\$274,140	\$384,320	\$110,180	40.19%
TUOLUMNE	\$142,119	\$74,062	(\$68,057)	-47.89%
Very Small Counties**				
ALPINE	\$95,674	\$80,827	(\$14,847)	-15.52%
AMADOR	\$49,826	\$105,301	\$55,475	111.34%
COLUSA	\$36,925	\$140,189	\$103,264	279.66%
GLENN	\$66,911	\$105,085	\$38,174	57.05%
INYO	\$133,331	\$138,364	\$5,033	3.77%
LASSEN	\$108,694	\$120,301	\$11,607	10.68%
MARIPOSA	\$200,902	\$156,918	(\$43,984)	-21.89%
MODOC	\$89,323	\$83,227	(\$6,096)	-6.82%
MONO	\$90,010	\$79,234	(\$10,776)	-11.97%
PLUMAS	\$48,231	\$39,099	(\$9,132)	-18.93%
SIERRA	\$50,802	\$53,796	\$2,994	5.89%
TRINITY	\$148,977	\$214,627	\$65,650	44.07%
Total APS Expenditures	\$119,737,132	\$126,269,433	\$6,532,301	5.46%

*The expenditures only capture the non-federal share that is comprised of Local Revenue Fund (LRF) and county share since 2011 Realignment shifted the funding from the state to the local governments.

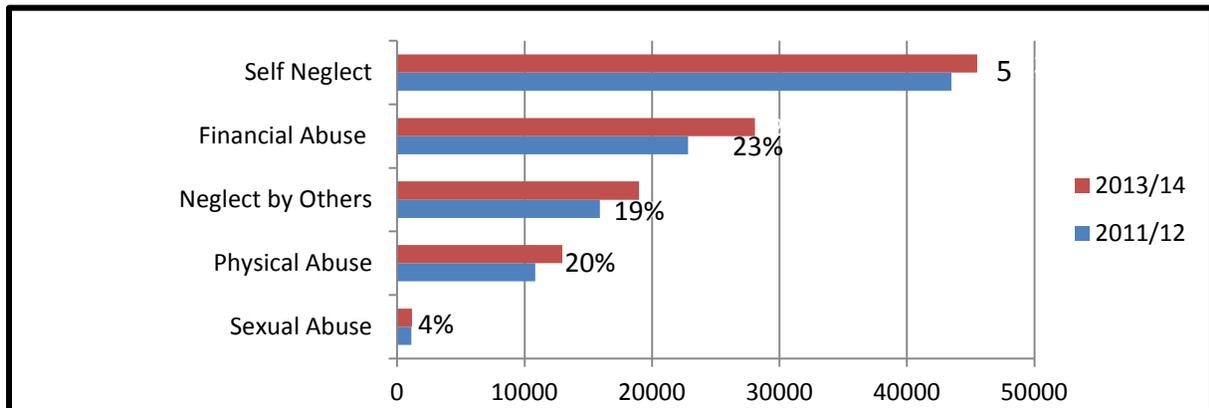
**In conjunction with County Welfare Directors Association (CWDA) counties are divided into size categories based on overall caseload.

Changes in Abuse Findings by Type since Realignment

The most prominent change in abuse findings has been a 23 percent increase statewide in inconclusive and confirmed findings of financial abuse between 2011 and 2014. These investigations are some of the most time-consuming and complex cases that APS investigates and therefore they represent a large increase in workload for APS programs. Chart 3 shows the changes in the number of findings by abuse type and the percentage of that change.

Chart 3

Changes in Numbers of Confirmed /Inconclusive Findings of Abuse by Type from 2011-12 to 2013-14



Increases in Unduplicated Reports of Abuse

In FY 2014-15, APS received 156,358 unduplicated reports of abuse. Yearly unduplicated reports have increased 22 percent since realignment in FY 2011-12. Total funding over the same time period has also increased by 23 percent, but the bulk of that increase has come from reimbursement for health services, not program funding. Counties have indicated they are managing their caseloads to remain within funding available. For example, more cases are being triaged-out, cases are being closed faster than in the past (51 percent within one month) and counties are purchasing fewer tangible services.

Chart 4
Yearly Unduplicated Reports*

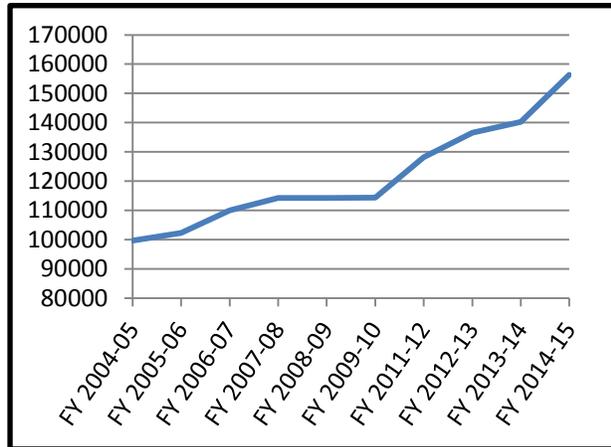
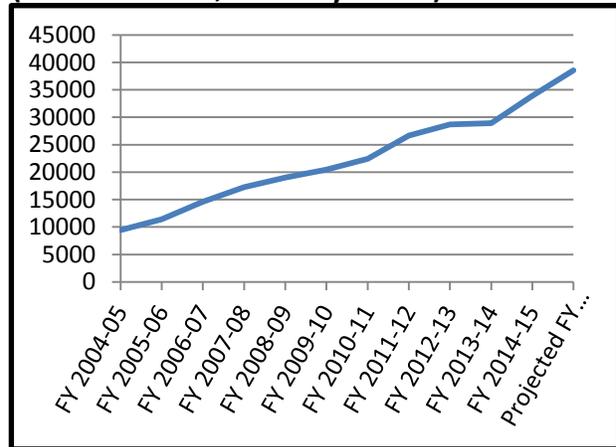


Chart 5
**Change in Triaged-out Reports
(NIRs and NTDs, formerly NIFFIs)**



*"Report" is a verbal or written account of an incident of suspected elder or dependent adult abuse that is received by the county.