Safety is the reason we exist.

The Division of Child and Family Services mission is to keep children safe from abuse and neglect by working with communities, strengthening families, and supporting and funding domestic violence services.

### FY 2019 by the numbers:

- **Total number of child abuse and neglect reports received by DCFS**: 42,428
  - **% change compared to FY 2014-2018 average**: 7.4%
- **Reports accepted for formal CPS assessment**: 21,401
  - **% change compared to FY 2014-2018 average**: 2.2%
- **Number of confirmed CPS reports of abuse and neglect**: 7,570
  - **% change**: 5.9%
- **Confirmed child victims**: 10,828
  - **% change**: 6%
We use family-centered interventions to keep children safely at home.

The moment Child Protective Services (CPS) becomes involved with a family, our goal is to assess for safety concerns, work with the family to create an effective intervention plan, and strengthen the parents’ ability to safely care for their child.
Substance use disorder is a health crisis that we recognize is affecting our families and communities.

If the safety of the child requires a child welfare intervention, we will provide services to address the contributing factors, and help build a parent’s long-term capacity to safely care for their children by connecting families to substance use disorder and mental health treatment.

40.7% Confirmed cases of abuse and neglect involve substance abuse

10.2% Confirmed cases of abuse and neglect with an allegation involving opioid-specific substance abuse

8.9% Confirmed cases of abuse and neglect with an allegation of fetal exposure to alcohol or other substance use
The goal of in-home services is to keep children safely at home while addressing abuse or neglect through family-driven, solution-focused interventions. These services can include:

- Child and Family Team Meetings that bring the family, support persons, and service providers together to help set solution-focused goals to address safety concerns
- Developing child safety plans with the family to address and manage safety concerns
- Linking the family to evidence-based community resources including mental health treatment, parenting skills, and substance use disorder treatment

Court-Ordered vs. Voluntary In-home Services:

In some situations safety can be achieved when a family works collaboratively and voluntarily with DCFS to address risk factors. At other times court involvement is needed to ensure the best outcomes for children and their families.

5,187
Total confirmed child victims of abuse or neglect who received in-home services in FY 19

182
Confirmed child victims who received in-home services, and were later removed into foster care within 12 months
It is imperative to preserve a child’s connection to their kin, culture, and community whenever safely possible.

Kinship care allows a child to stay in the care of a family member or friend who is willing to meet the child’s needs, including working with the child’s parent toward reunification or providing a permanent home.

44.8%
Children served in foster care who are placed with a relative or family friend in FY 2019

92.4%
Children who exit foster care to a relative do not re-enter foster care within 12 months (FY 2018)

13
Median months in custody for children who exit foster care during FY 2019
Unnecessary removal from a home can create new adverse experiences for children.

When in-home services are unable to address safety concerns in the home, foster care can provide a home for a child while reunification services continue.
For children who cannot reunify safely with their family, adoption services can connect children to a home through relatives, families who fostered them or other families seeking to adopt.

Every child deserves safety and stability.

For children who cannot reunify safely with their family, adoption services can connect children to a home through relatives, families who fostered them or other families seeking to adopt.
Youth who transition out of foster care without a permanent home need added supports.

No service can replace the stability and connection of a family. We provide assistance to youth ages 14 to 21 and continue to work with community partners toward reunification, kinship care, or adoption until youth leave our custody.

The Transitioning to Adulthood (TAL) program utilizes a network of organizations to offer services including academic mentoring, financial planning, career preparation, and limited financial assistance.

1,020
Total count of youth who received TAL services in FY 2019

76%
Youth who received Independent Living Needs Assessment services

130
Total youth who exited foster care at age of majority/emancipation

% of Youth Receiving TAL services by age FY19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 yrs</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 yrs</td>
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<td>21 yrs</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 yrs</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
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Domestic violence causes harm to both adults and the children who are exposed to it.

Connecting parents to trauma-informed services also enhances the stability, safety and permanency for children.

18,715
Calls received by shelters from the Domestic Violence Crisis Hotline

3,612
Shelter clients served in FY 2019

1,641
Shelter requests that went unmet

1,302
CPS cases supported for domestic violence related child abuse