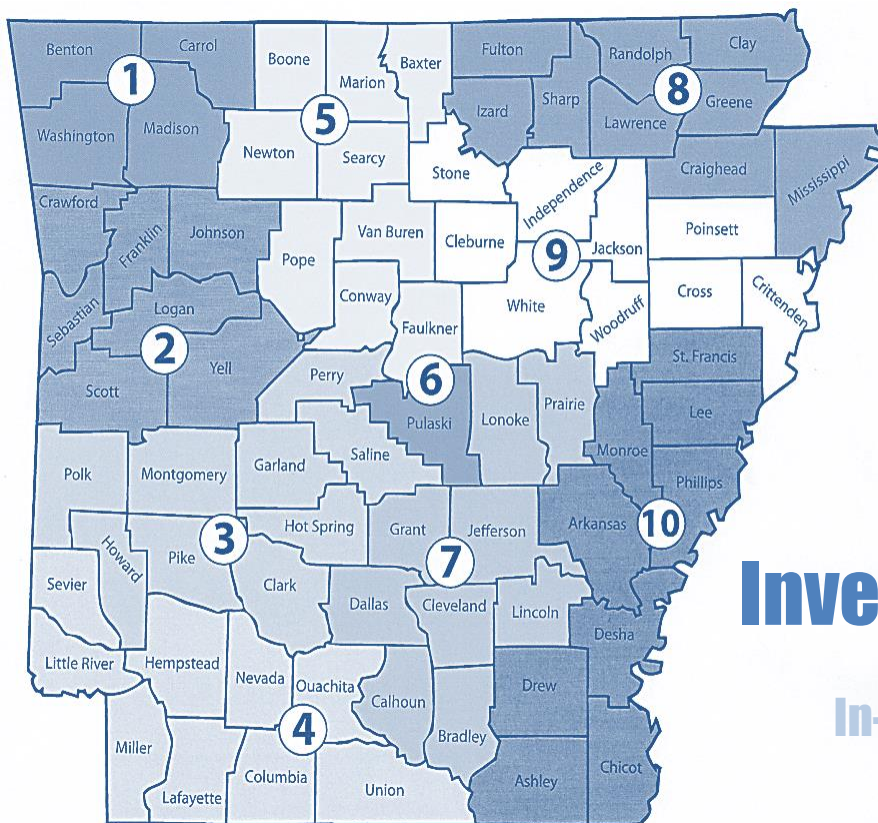


# QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT 4th QUARTER SFY 2023

April 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023



## Investigations

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

In-home Protective Services

**ADOPTIONS**

Differential Response  
**Foster Care**

Produced for  
Arkansas Department of Human Services  
Division of Children and Family Services  
by  
Evident Change



## Table of Contents

---

<b>Reports of Child Maltreatment</b> .....	<b>1</b>
Volume and Description of Child Maltreatment Reports .....	1
Meeting Agency Policies .....	4
Benefits to Children and Families .....	6
<b>In-Home Services</b> .....	<b>7</b>
Volume and Description of Cases.....	7
Meeting Agency Policies.....	8
Benefits to Children and Families .....	9
<b>Foster Care</b> .....	<b>10</b>
Volume and Description of Cases.....	10
Meeting Agency Policies.....	13
Benefits to Children and Families .....	15
<b>Adoption</b> .....	<b>16</b>
Volume and Description of Cases.....	16
Meeting Agency Policies.....	17
Benefits to Children and Families .....	18
<b>Resources</b> .....	<b>19</b>
Caseworkers and Caseloads .....	19
Foster Homes .....	20
<b>Appendices</b> .....	<b>23</b>
<i>Appendix A: Breakdown of Child Maltreatment Reports</i> Received During the Quarter and Substantiation Rates of Maltreatment Investigations .....	23
<i>Appendix B: Average Caseload by County</i> .....	24
<i>Appendix C: Foster Home Closure Reasons</i> .....	25
<i>Appendix D: Summary of Foster Care Maltreatment Reports</i> .....	27



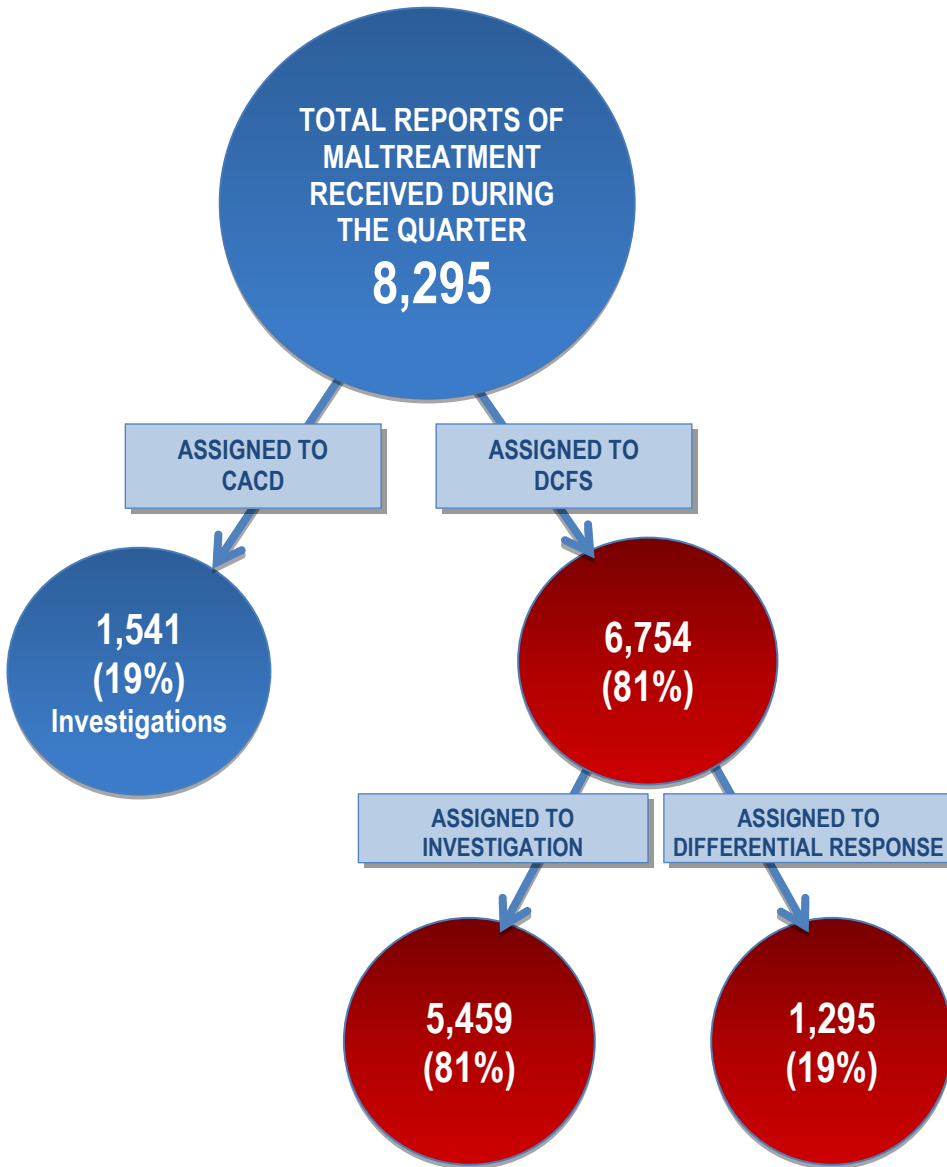
# Reports of Child Maltreatment

# Quick Facts

## Volume and Description of Child Maltreatment Reports

Volume of Incoming Reports

Maltreatment Reports Received During  
4th Quarter SFY 2023



Of the 8,295 reports of child maltreatment accepted by the Arkansas Child Abuse Hotline during the fourth quarter, 81 percent were assigned to DCFS and 19 percent were assigned to the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police, which is responsible for investigating the most serious allegations of maltreatment.

Of the reports assigned to DCFS, 81 percent were assigned for an investigation and 19 percent were handled through differential response (DR).

DR allows the Division to respond to specific, low-risk maltreatment reports through a family assessment and provision of services rather than a traditional investigation.

The following types of allegations can qualify for DR:

- Inadequate supervision if children are at least five
- Environmental neglect if children are at least three
- Medical neglect if children are at least thirteen
- Lock out if children are at least ten
- Inadequate food, inadequate shelter, inadequate clothing, or educational neglect with no age restrictions
- Certain allegations of abuse where the incident occurred at least one year prior to the report date

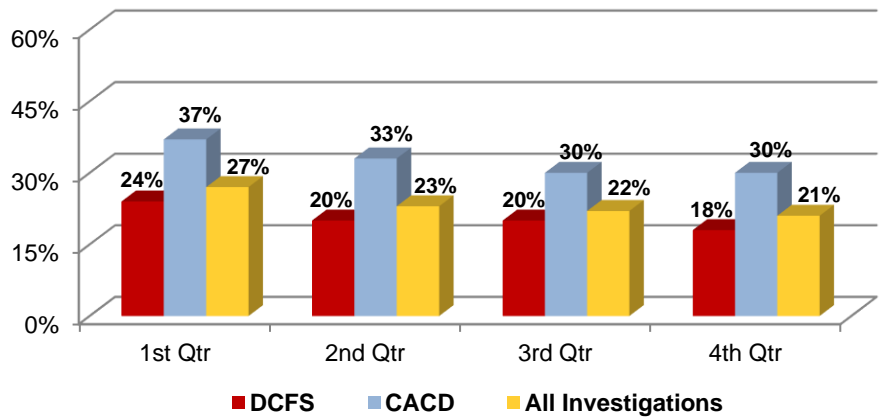
# Quick Facts

## Findings of Child Maltreatment Investigations

Eighteen percent of the investigations assigned to DCFS during the fourth quarter were found true, compared to 30 percent for CACD. The overall substantiation rate stood at 21 percent, lower than the previous quarter.

Appendix A provides further detail on the number of referrals accepted for investigation and those found true in the most recent quarter.

Percentage of Investigations Found True



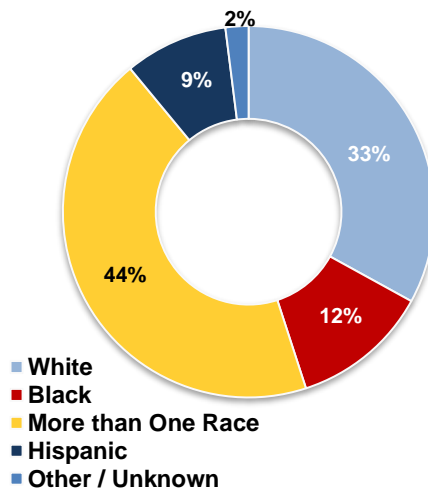
## Characteristics of Children Involved in True Investigations

There were 2,033 victim children involved in substantiated maltreatment investigations during the quarter.

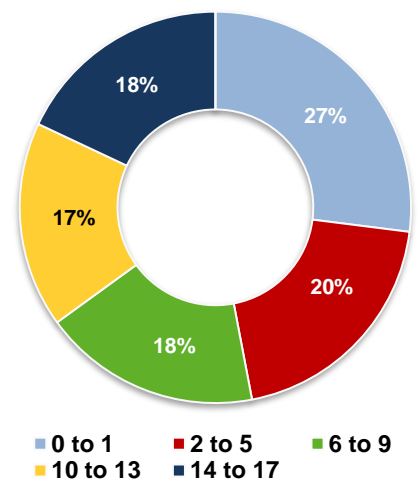
Of those children, 44 percent were multiracial, 33 percent were white, and 12 percent were black. Close to half (47 percent) were under six years of age.

The majority of victim children (57 percent) were female.

Race/Ethnicity of Children in True Reports



Ages of Children in True Reports



## Types of Allegations in True Investigations

Neglect was the most commonly reported allegation for the 2,033 victim children, followed by allegations of sexual abuse and physical abuse.

Percentage of Children in True Allegations of Maltreatment

	Number of Children Cited in True Allegation	Percentage of Children Cited in True Allegation
Neglect	1,366	67%
Sexual Abuse	418	21%
Physical Abuse	386	19%
Abandonment	30	1%
Sexual Exploitation	25	1%

A child may have more than one allegation.

# Quick Facts

## Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities

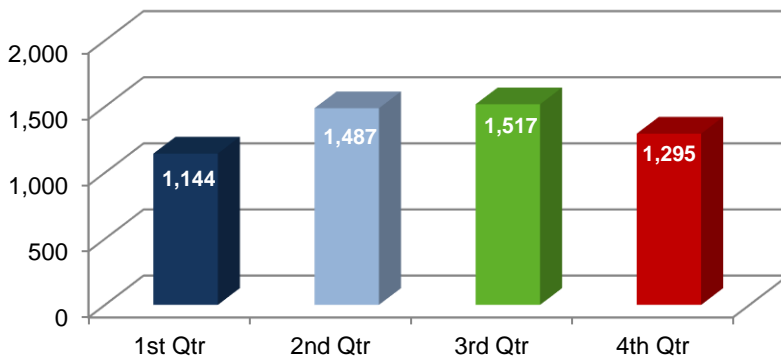
Findings of Maltreatment Reports Involving Fatalities or Near Fatalities		
Finding	Child Fatality	Child Near Fatality
True	4	2
Unsubstantiated	3	0
Pending	7	0

During the fourth quarter, there were 14 maltreatment investigations of child fatalities. Of those, four were found true, three were unsubstantiated, and seven were still pending.

Over the same period, there were two investigations of near fatalities. Both were found true.

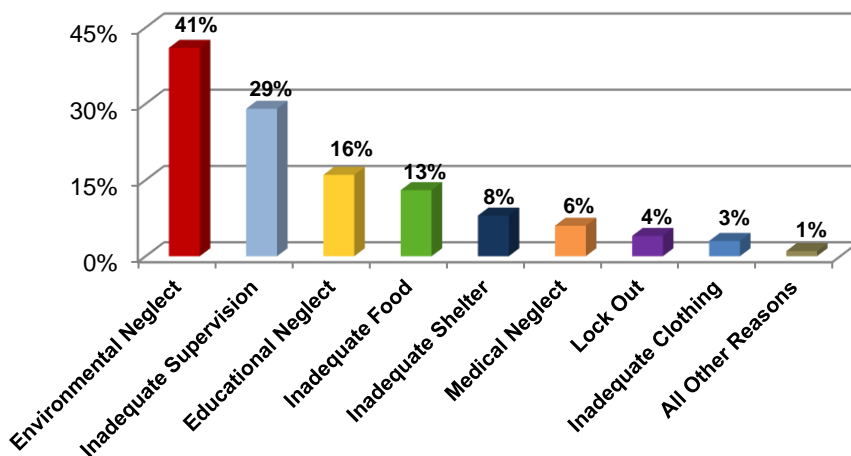
## Reports Assigned for Differential Response (DR)

Number of Reports Assigned for Differential Response



The number of reports assigned for DR during the fourth quarter (1,295) decreased by 14 percent from the previous quarter.

Types of Allegations Cited in Reports Assigned for DR



## Allegations Cited in DR Reports

Environmental neglect and inadequate supervision were the most common allegations cited in reports assigned for DR during the quarter, followed by educational neglect and inadequate food.

# Quick Facts

## Meeting Agency Policies

### Timeliness of Initiating Investigations

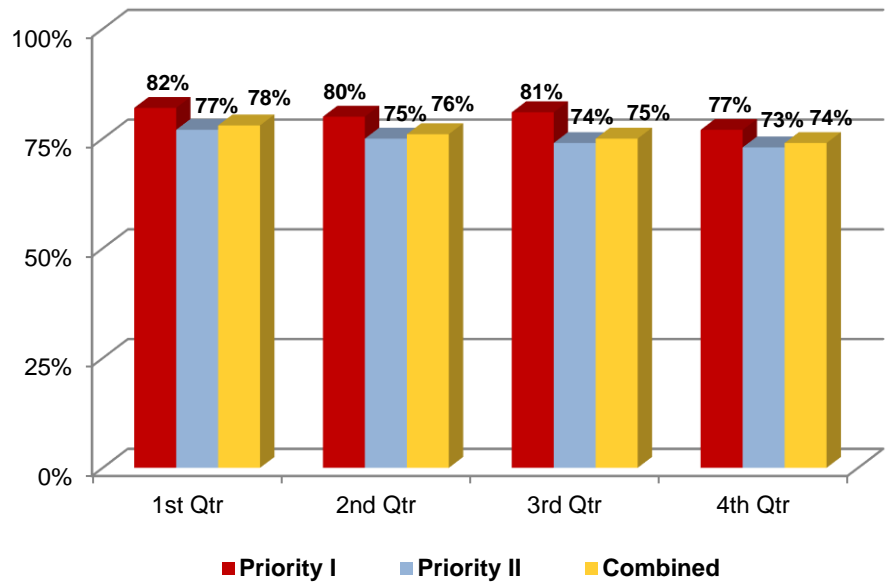
The law requires reports of maltreatment to be initiated within 24 hours of receipt of a Priority I report or within 72 hours for a Priority II report.

Priority I reports cite more severe allegations while Priority II reports cite comparatively less serious allegations.

Initiation occurs when all victim children are interviewed or observed (if too young for an interview) within the designated timeframes.

DCFS initiated 74 percent of its investigations on time during the fourth quarter, similar to its performance during the previous quarter.

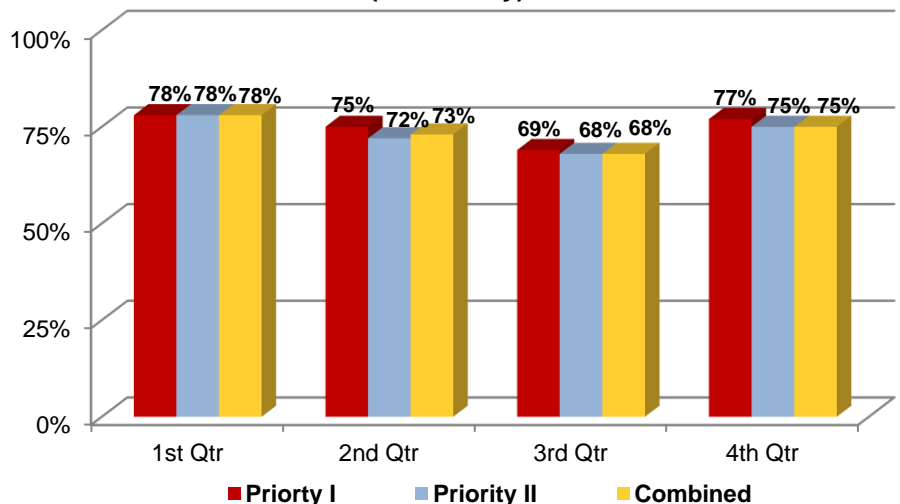
**Timely Initiation of Child Maltreatment Assessments (DCFS Only)**



### Timeliness of Completing Investigations

DCFS completed 75 percent of its investigations on time (within 45 days of receipt of the report) during the quarter, higher than its performance during the previous quarter (68 percent).

**Timely Completion of Child Maltreatment Assessments (DCFS Only)**

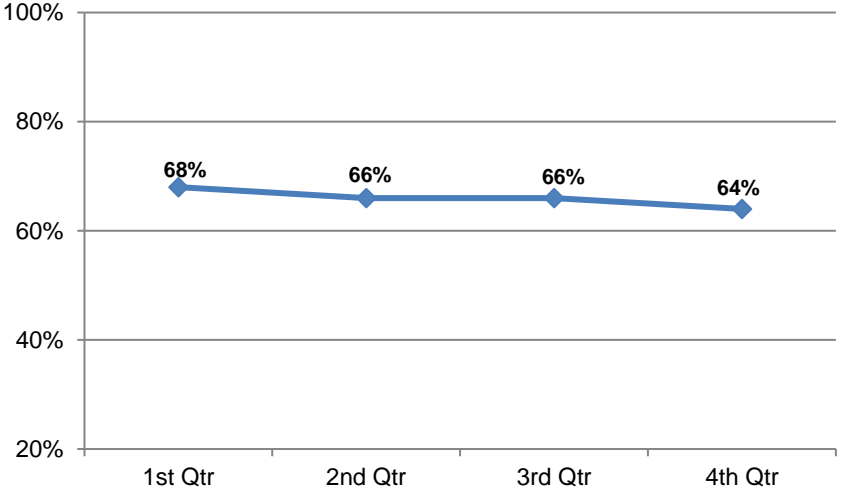




# Quick Facts

## Timeliness of Initiating Reports Assigned to DR

Timely Initiation of DR Reports

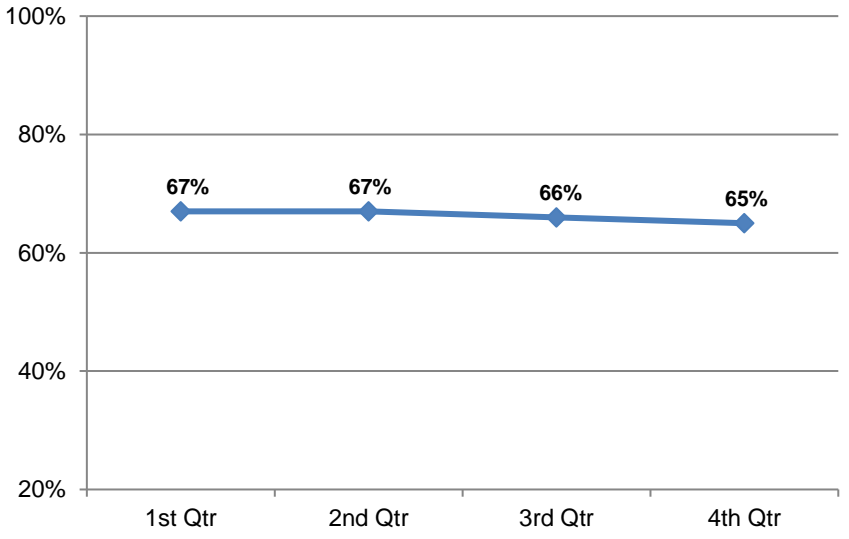


DR referrals must be initiated within 72 hours of receipt of the report.

DCFS initiated 64 percent of its DR reports on time during the fourth quarter, slightly lower than its performance during the previous quarter.

## Timeliness of Completing Reports Assigned to DR

Timely Closure of DR Reports



Reports assigned to DR must be closed within 30 days of receipt of the report. In certain instances where the family's needs necessitate longer involvement, two 15-day extensions can be granted, for a total of 60 days.

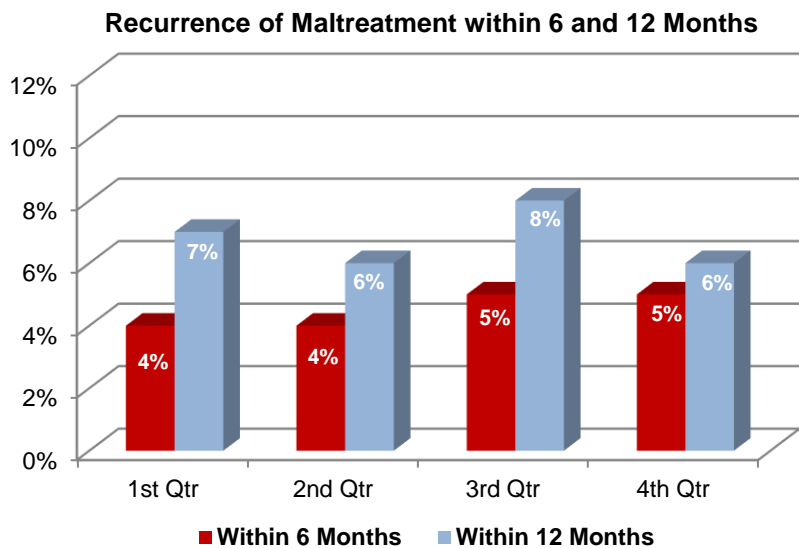
The Division closed 65 percent of DR reports on time during the fourth quarter, taking into account reports in which extensions were granted.

# Quick Facts

## Benefits to Children and Families

### Preventing the Recurrence of Maltreatment

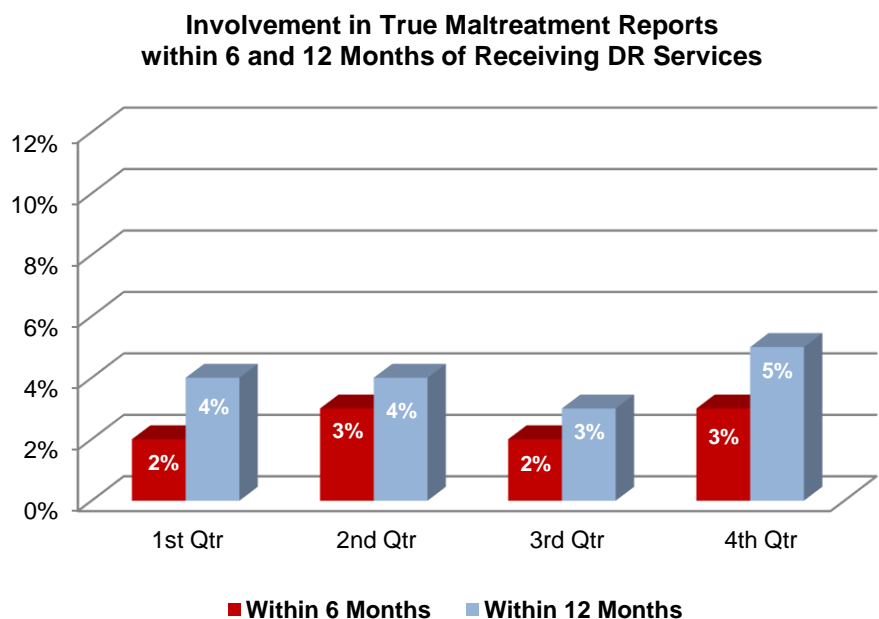
Six percent of the victim children involved in true investigations during the fourth quarter of SFY 2022 experienced a recurrence of maltreatment within 12 months. Five percent experienced a recurrence of maltreatment within six months.



*The National Standard for recurrence within 12 months is 9.1 percent or less*

### Recurrence of Maltreatment Among Families Who Received DR Services

Five percent of the children who began receiving DR services during the fourth quarter of SFY 2022 were involved in a true investigation of child maltreatment within 12 months, and three percent were involved within six months.

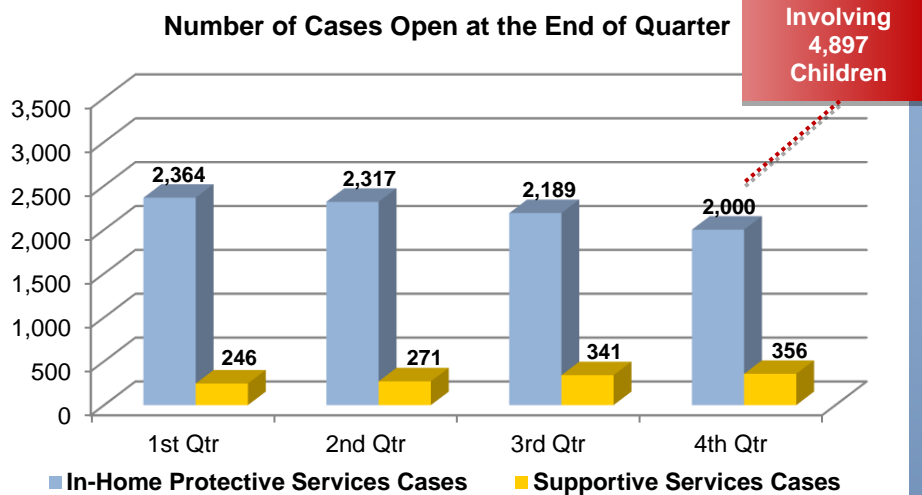


# In-Home Services

# Quick Facts

## Volume and Description of Cases

### Volume of Cases

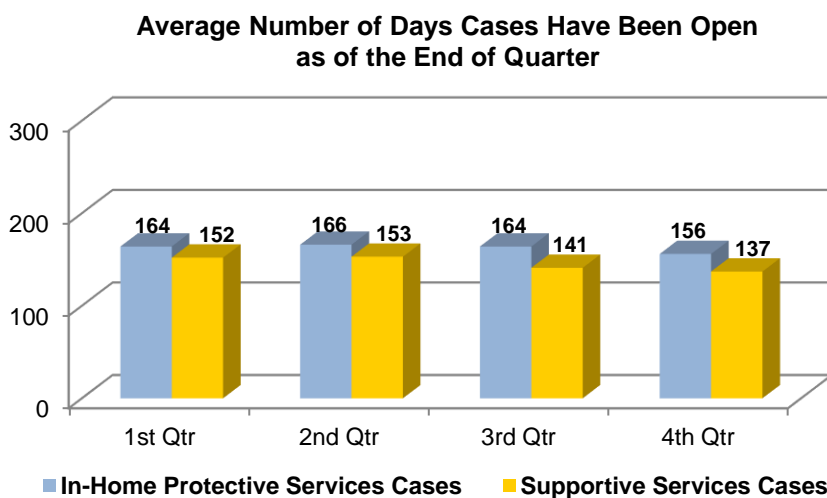


In most instances, DCFS offers in-home services through a protective services case, which is opened when a true maltreatment report or court order necessitates DCFS' involvement with a family but there is not an immediate threat to any child's safety in the home.

The number of in-home protective services cases decreased during the quarter. There were 2,000 in-home protective services cases, involving 4,897 children, open across the state at the end of the quarter.

The Division also offers in-home supportive services to families on a voluntary basis. DCFS was responsible for 356 supportive services cases at the end of the quarter.

### Length of Time Cases Have Been Open



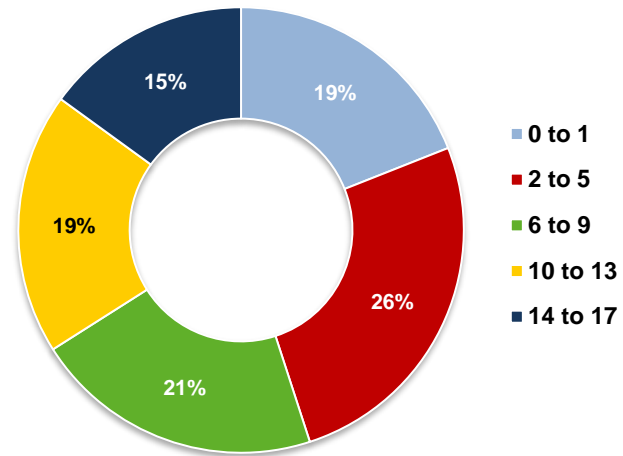
In-home protective services cases that were active as of the end of the quarter had been open, on average, for just over five months. Supportive services cases had been open, on average, for four and one-half months.

# Quick Facts

## Ages of Children in In-Home Protective Services Cases

Over half (55 percent) of the children involved in in-home protective services cases at the end of the quarter were ages six or older.

Ages of Children in In-Home Cases



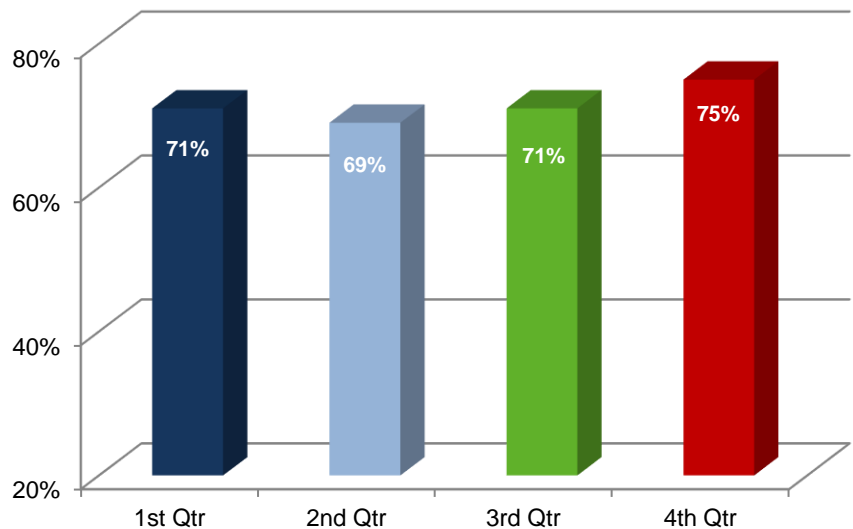
## Meeting Agency Policies

## Monthly Visits to In-Home Protective Services Cases

Families with an open in-home protective services case must receive a face-to-face visit from a caseworker each month. Caseworkers made 75 percent of these required visits during the fourth quarter.

This is higher than the in-home visitation rate observed for the previous three quarters. The Division's goal is 85 percent.

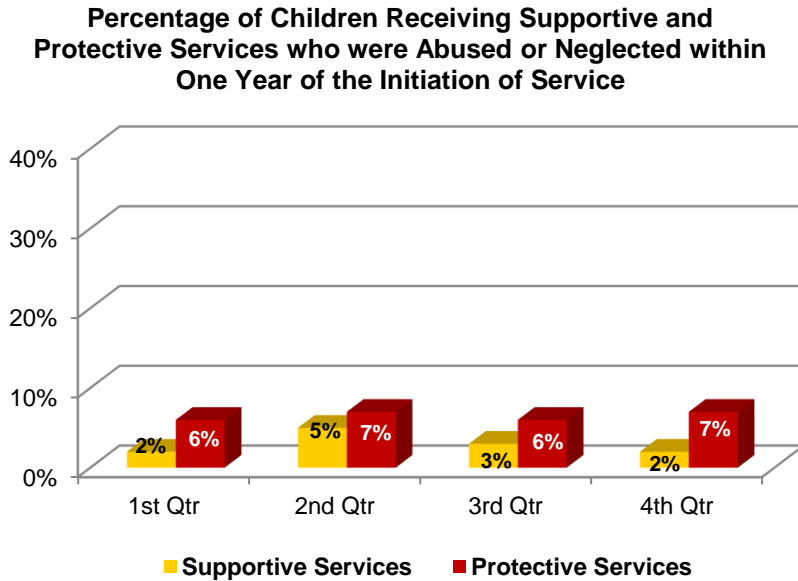
Required Monthly Visits to In-Home Cases



# Quick Facts

## Benefits to Children and Families

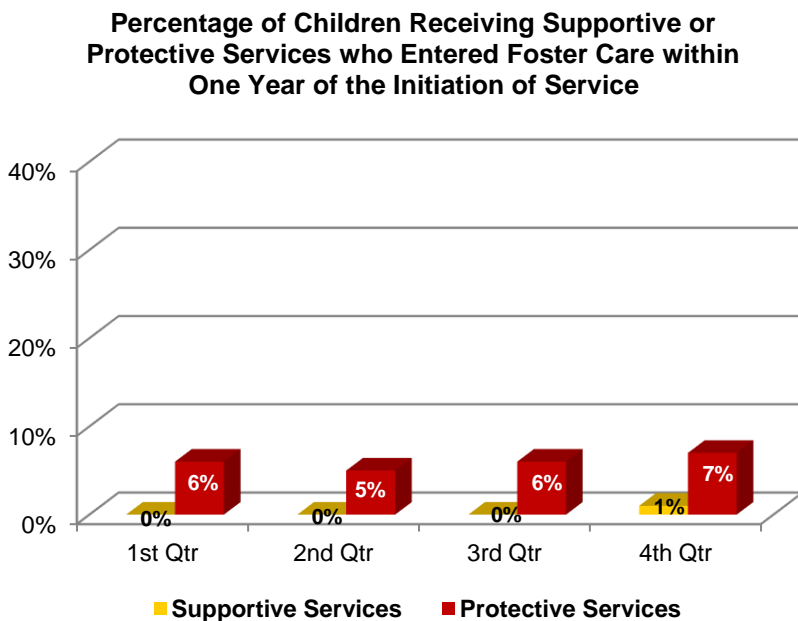
### Victimization Rate Among Children Who Received Protective and Supportive Services



The percentage of children involved in a protective services case who were maltreated within one year of service initiation was seven percent for the fourth quarter.

The rate of maltreatment for children involved through a supportive services case was two percent for the fourth quarter.

### Rate of Entry Into Foster Care Among Children Who Received Protective and Supportive Services



Of the children who began receiving protective services during the fourth quarter one year ago, seven percent entered foster care within one year of the initiation of those services.

One percent of the children who began receiving supportive services during the same timeframe entered care within one year.

In-home services prevent the vast majority of children from being re-victimized or entering foster care within one year.

# Quick Facts

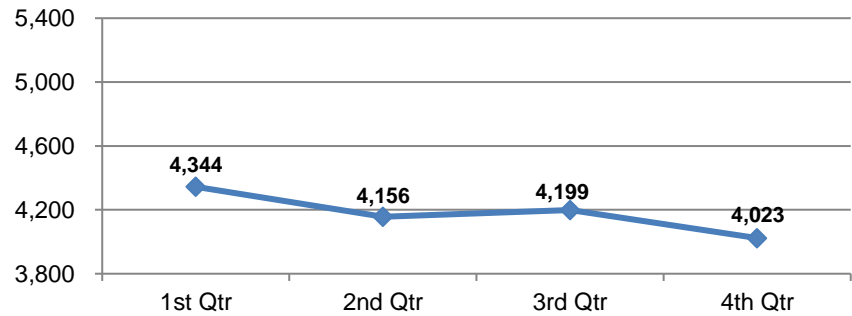
# Foster Care

## Volume and Description of Cases

### Number of Children in Foster Care

There were 4,023 children in foster care at the end of the fourth quarter of SFY 2023, a decrease of four percent from the previous quarter (4,199).

Number of Children in Foster Care

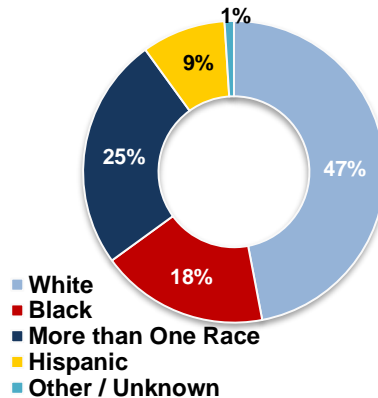


### Characteristics of Children in Foster Care

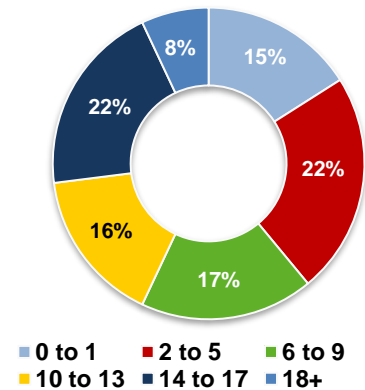
At the end of the quarter, children ages five years or younger made up 37 percent of all children in foster care. Forty-seven percent of those in care were white, 25 percent were multiracial, and 18 percent were black.

Of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter, 51 percent were male and 49 percent were female.

Race/Ethnicity of Children in Care at the End of Quarter



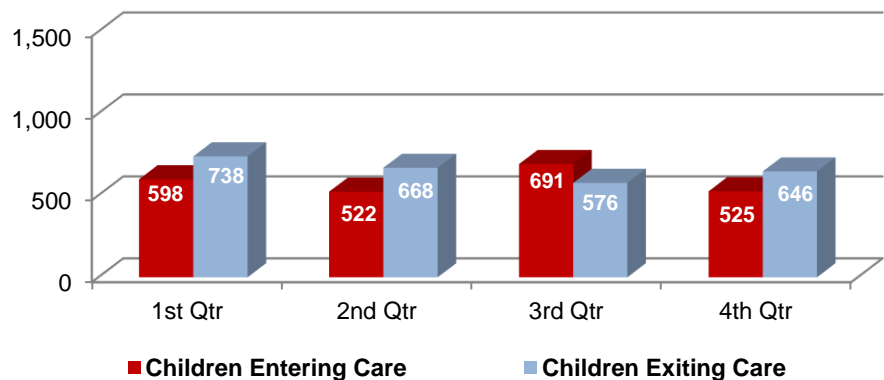
Ages of Children in Care at the End of the Quarter



### Admissions Into and Discharges From Foster Care

Far more children exited foster care during the fourth quarter than had entered.

Number of Admissions into and Discharges from Foster Care During the Quarter



# Quick Facts

## Reasons for Children’s Entry Into Foster Care

**Reasons for Children’s Entry Into Foster Care**  
4th Quarter SFY 2023

Placement Reason	Number of Entries	Total
<b>Neglect</b>	291	55%
<b>Substance Abuse</b>	244 <sup>1</sup>	46%
<b>Parent Incarceration</b>	100	19%
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	84	16%
<b>Inadequate Housing</b>	66	13%
<b>Abandonment</b>	28	5%
<b>Child’s Behavior</b>	19	4%
<b>Caretaker Illness</b>	16	3%
<b>Truancy</b>	14	3%
<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	13	2%
<b>All Other Reasons</b>	26	5%

*A child may have more than one reason for entry.*

Neglect and substance abuse were the most common reasons for children entering foster care during the fourth quarter, similar to the previous quarter.

## Reasons for Children’s Discharge from Foster Care

**Reasons for Children’s Discharge from Foster Care**  
4th Quarter SFY 2023

Discharge Reason	Number of Discharges	Total
<b>Reunification</b>	247	38%
<b>Adoption</b>	202	31%
<b>Relative Custody</b>	78	12%
<b>Guardianship</b>	56	9%
<b>Child Aged Out</b>	40	6%
<b>Non-Custodial Parent Custody</b>	19	3%
<b>Non-Relative Custody</b>	3	<1%
<b>Custody Transfer to Another Agency</b>	1	<1%

*National data<sup>2</sup> indicate that the three most prevalent reasons children leave care are reunification (47%), adoption (25%), and guardianship (12%).*

Thirty-eight percent of the children who left foster care during the quarter were reunified with their own family, and 31 percent were adopted.

Overall, 94 percent of the children exiting care in Arkansas achieved permanency either by returning home or via discharge to relatives, an adoptive home, or another permanent living arrangement.

<sup>1</sup> These 244 cases of substance abuse include 205 instances of parental drug abuse, 28 instances of parental alcohol abuse, and 11 instances of drug abuse by children.

<sup>2</sup> National data from the Children’s Bureau (November 2022).

# Quick Facts

## Length of Stay in Foster Care

Of the children in foster care at the end of the fourth quarter, 57 percent had been in care for 12 months or longer.

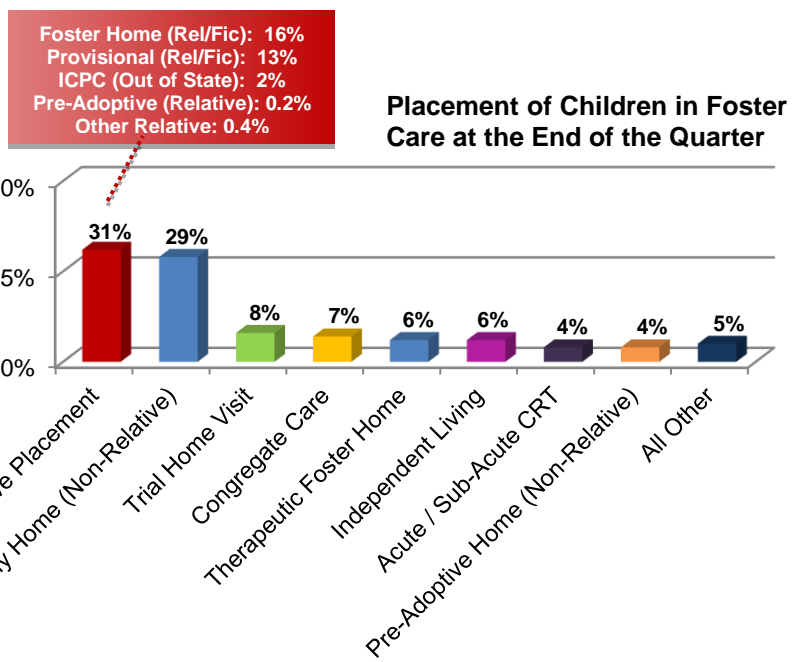
Length of Stay in Foster Care for Children in Care  
4th Quarter SFY 2023

Length of Stay	Number	Percentage	National
Less than 30 days	140	3%	4%
1-3 Months	336	8%	19%
3-6 Months	552	14%	
6-12 Months	713	18%	19%
12-24 Months	1,086	27%	25%
24-36 Months	537	13%	15%
36+ Months	659	16%	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,023</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Placements of Children in Foster Care

Overall, 78 percent of the children in foster care at the end of the quarter resided in a family-like setting (i.e., relative placement, foster family home, therapeutic foster home, trial home visit, pre-adoptive home).

Seven percent resided in congregate care, which represents placement in a qualified residential treatment program (QRTP), residential treatment care or residential care only program, or emergency shelter.

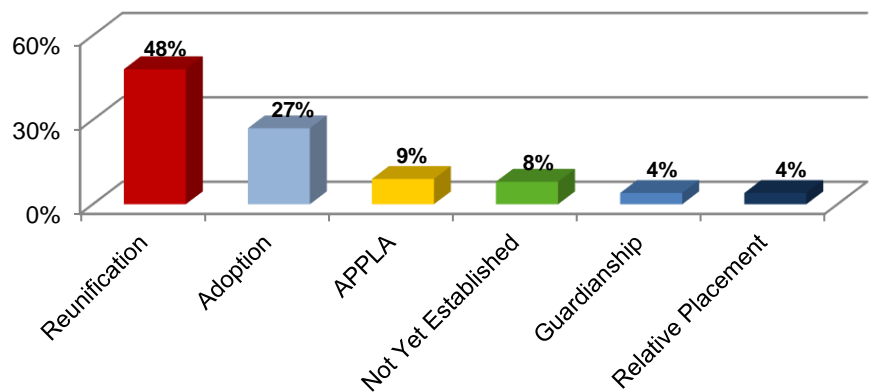


## Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care

Forty-eight percent of the children in care at the end of the quarter had a permanency goal of reunification (return home) and 27 percent had a goal of adoption.

These figures differ slightly from national data from the Children's Bureau as of November 2022, with averages of 53 percent for reunification and 28 percent for adoption.

Permanency Goals of Children in Foster Care  
at the End of the Quarter



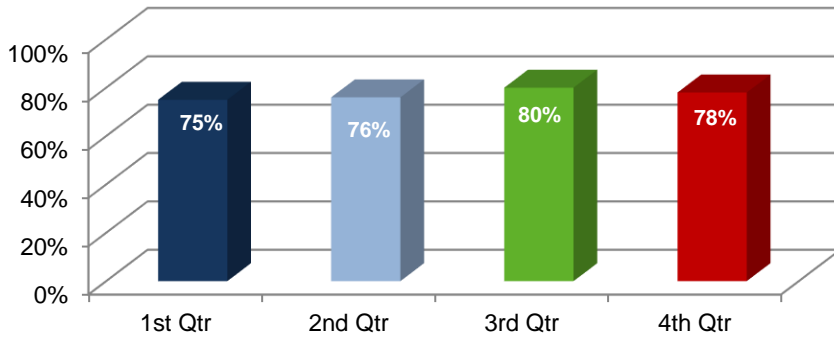


# Quick Facts

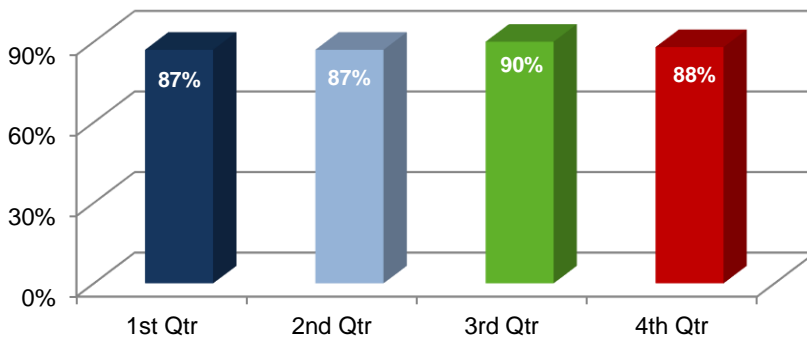
## Meeting Agency Policies

### Monthly Visits to Children in Foster Care

**Children in Care who Received Monthly Face-to-Face Visits by Caseworkers**



**Children in Care who Received Monthly Face-to-Face Visits from Any DCFS Staff**



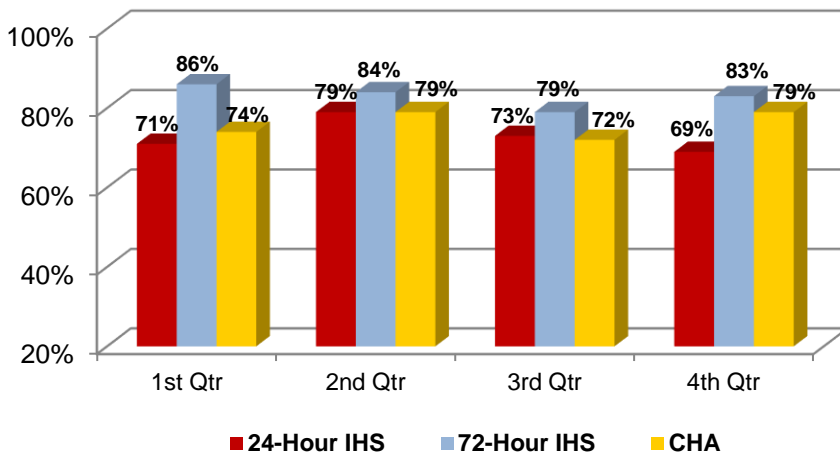
To ensure their safety and well-being, best practice requires children in care to be visited in their placement by a caseworker monthly (measured in this chart). The Division's goal is 95 percent.

DCFS caseworkers made 78 percent of their required monthly face-to-face visits with children in care during the fourth quarter. This was slightly lower than the visitation rate observed for the previous quarter.

Eighty-eight percent of the foster children received a monthly face-to-face contact from *any* DCFS staff member, regardless of the staff member's position, location of the visit, or the purpose.

### Initial Health Screenings and Comprehensive Health Assessments

**24-Hour and 72-Hour Initial Health Screenings and Comprehensive Health Assessments**



When a child enters foster care due to an allegation of severe maltreatment, DCFS must conduct an Initial Health Screening (IHS) within 24 hours. All other incoming foster children require an initial screening within 72 hours.

Children must also receive a Comprehensive Health Assessment (CHA) within 60 days of entering foster care.

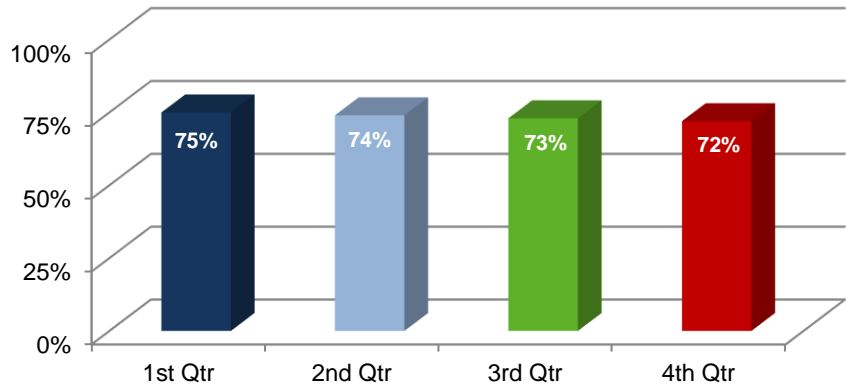
# Quick Facts

## Siblings in Care Who Are Placed Together

At the end of the quarter, 72 percent of the children with siblings in foster care were placed with at least one of their siblings, while 51 percent were placed with all of their siblings.

These figures do not exclude children who were placed separately for valid reasons such as safety issues or court orders.

Percentage of Siblings in Care who are Placed Together

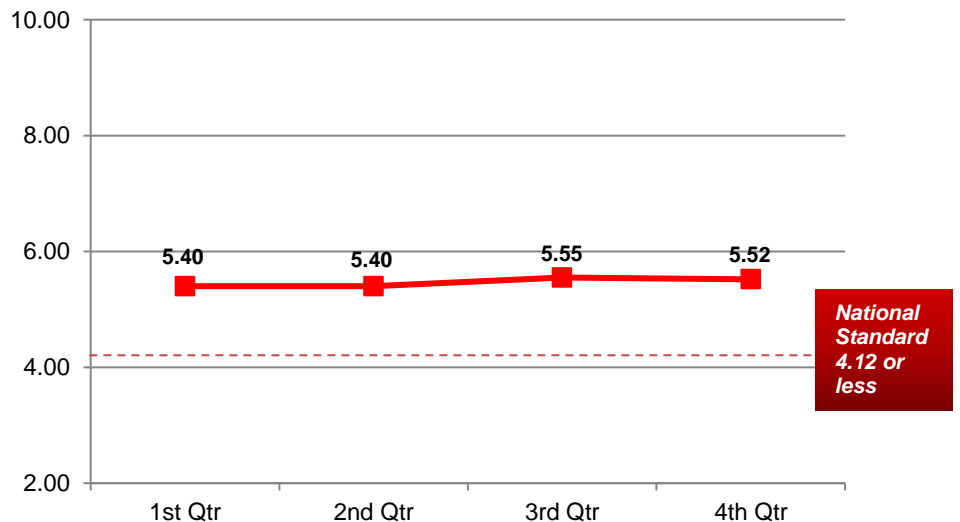


## Placement Stability of Children in Foster Care

Placement stability is measured by the rate of placement moves per 1,000 days in foster care for children who enter care over a 12-month period.

For the fourth quarter, the placement stability rate was 5.52, similar to recent quarters. The national standard is 4.12.

Rate of Placement Moves Per 1,000 Days in Foster Care



# Quick Facts

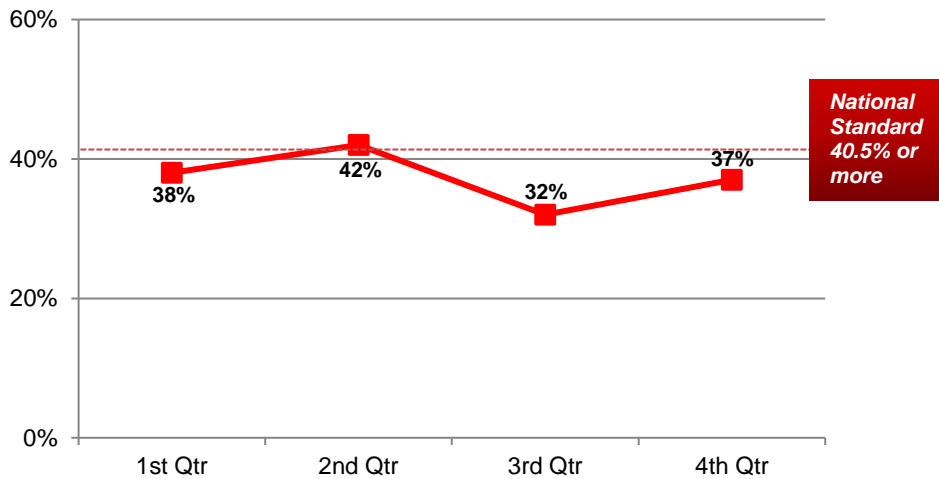
## Benefits to Children and Families

### Achieving Permanency Within Twelve Months

The national standard is for 40.5 percent of all children entering foster care to achieve permanency (i.e., exiting foster care to a permanent living situation) within 12 months of removal. Discharges from foster care due to reunification, relative custody, non-custodial parent custody, guardianship, adoption, and non-relative custody are considered to be permanent living situations.

For the fourth quarter of SFY 2023, 37 percent of the children entering care in Arkansas achieved permanency within 12 months. This was higher than the previous quarter.

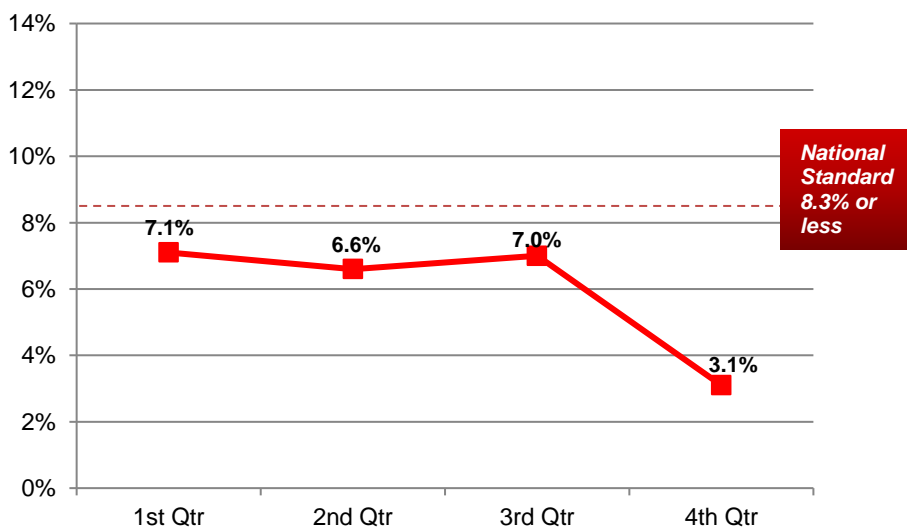
Permanency within 12 Months of Entering Foster Care



### Preventing Children's Re-Entry Into Foster Care

Just over three percent of children who had reunited with their families re-entered foster care within 12 months of discharge for the fourth quarter of SFY 2023, lower than the previous quarter and less than the national standard (8.3 percent).

Re-Entries Into Foster Care



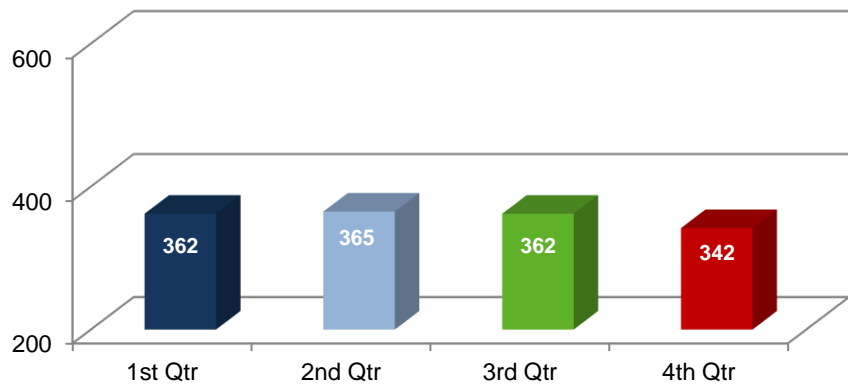
## Volume and Description of Cases

### Children Available for Adoption <sup>3</sup>

At the end of the fourth quarter, 342 children were available for adoption.

DCFS estimates that it has identified a possible pre-adoptive placement for approximately 20 percent of the children available for adoption.

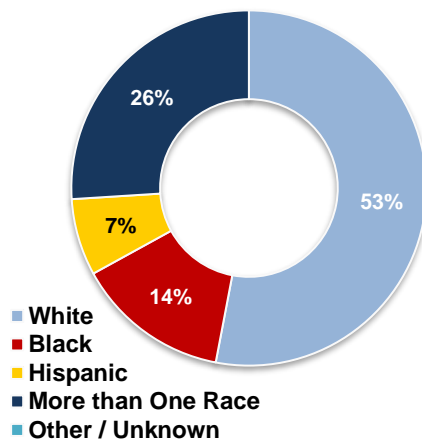
**Number of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter**



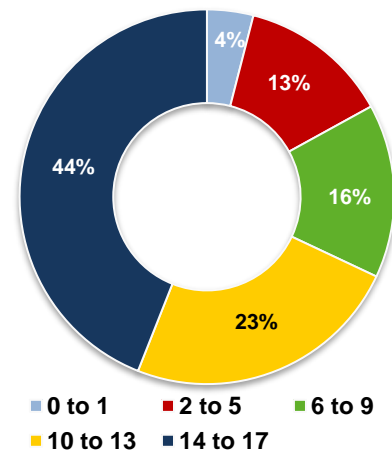
### Characteristics of Children Available for Adoption

Of the available children, 53 percent were white, 26 percent were multiracial, and 14 percent were black. Children ages ten and older made up two-thirds (67 percent) of the children available for adoption.

**Race/Ethnicity of Children Available for Adoption**



**Ages of Children Available for Adoption**



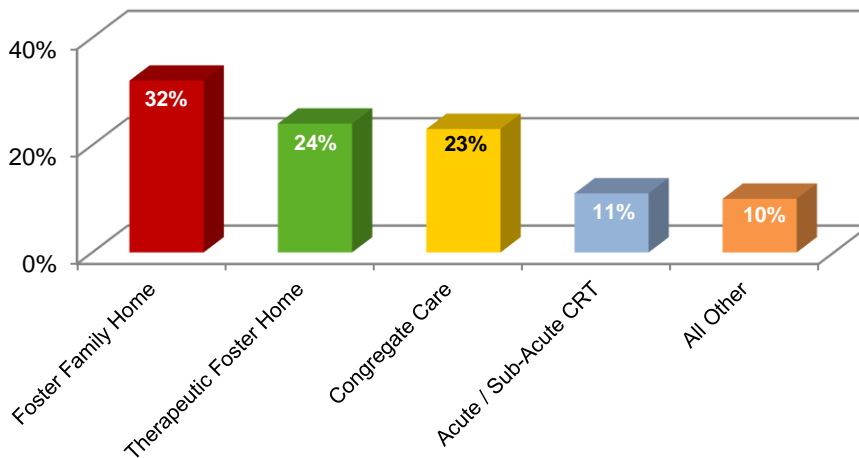
<sup>3</sup> Children available for adoption are defined as those who (1) have a termination of parental rights on both parents, (2) have a permanency goal of adoption, and (3) are not placed with relatives, fictive kin, or a pre-adoptive family.

# Quick Facts

## Placement of Children Available for Adoption

Fifty-six percent of the children available for adoption resided in either a foster family home or therapeutic foster home at the end of the quarter.

Placement of Children Available for Adoption at the End of the Quarter

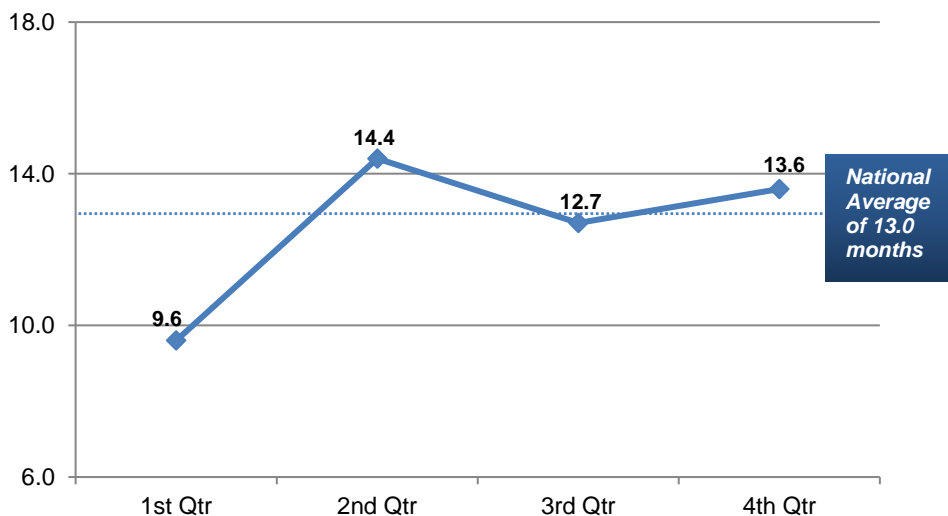


## Meeting Agency Policies

### Length of Time to Adoption

Arkansas' average length of time from termination of parental rights (TPR) until adoption finalization was 13.6 months during the quarter, slightly longer than the national average (13.0 months).

Length of Time From TPR to Finalization of Adoption (Months)



# Quick Facts

## Benefits to Children and Families

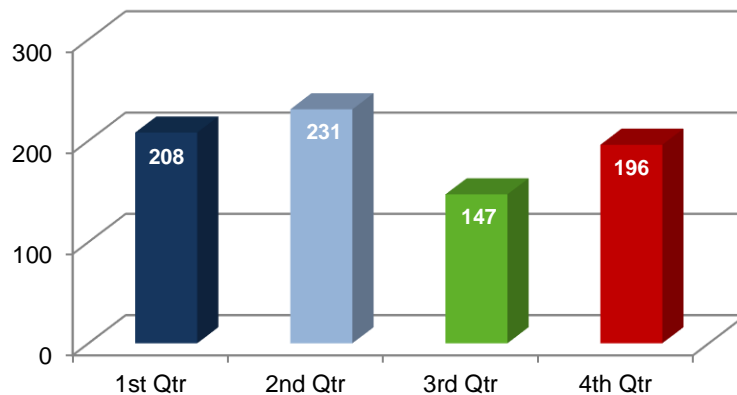
### Finalized Adoptions

One-hundred and ninety-six adoptions were finalized during the fourth quarter of SFY 2023.

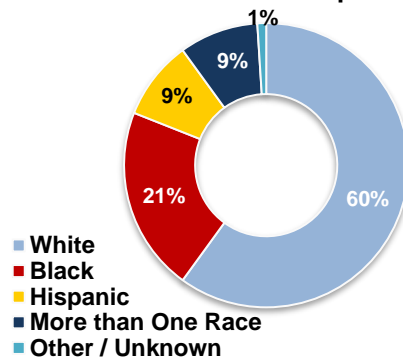
Of those adoptions, 37 percent were finalized by relatives.

Children ages two to five made up the largest group (36 percent) among those adopted during the quarter, followed by those ages zero to one (18 percent).

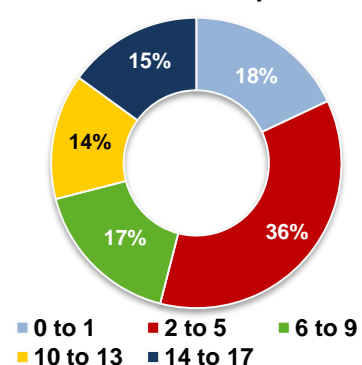
Number of Adoptions Finalized During the Quarter



Race/Ethnicity of Children with Finalized Adoption



Ages of Children with Finalized Adoption



### Subsidized Adoptions

Subsidies are given to children with special needs, defined as:

- Caucasian and over nine
- Healthy child of color and at least two years of age
- Member of any sibling group placed together, sharing at least one biological parent, who develop a bond
- Children who have severe medical or psychological needs that require ongoing treatment
- Children at high risk for the development of serious physical, mental, or emotional conditions documented by a medical professional

During the fourth quarter, **209** children began receiving adoption subsidies. Of those, 204 were federally funded subsidies and 5 were state funded subsidies.

During the quarter, a total of **8,145** children received adoption subsidies.



## Caseworkers and Caseloads

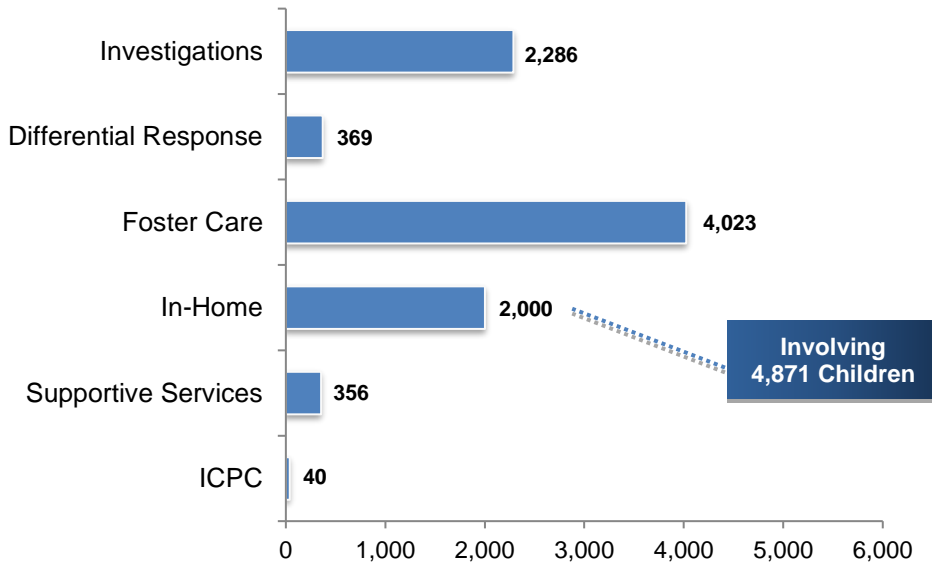
### Caseloads at the End of the Quarter

At the end of the fourth quarter, the Division was responsible for:

- 2,286 investigations of child maltreatment and 369 DR cases;
- 4,023 foster care cases;
- 2,000 in-home protective services cases, involving 4,871 children;
- 356 supportive services cases and 40 interstate compact for the placement of children (ICPC) cases.

This is while the Division was staffed with 420 family service workers, who were responsible for handling these cases.

**Types of Cases at the End of the Quarter**



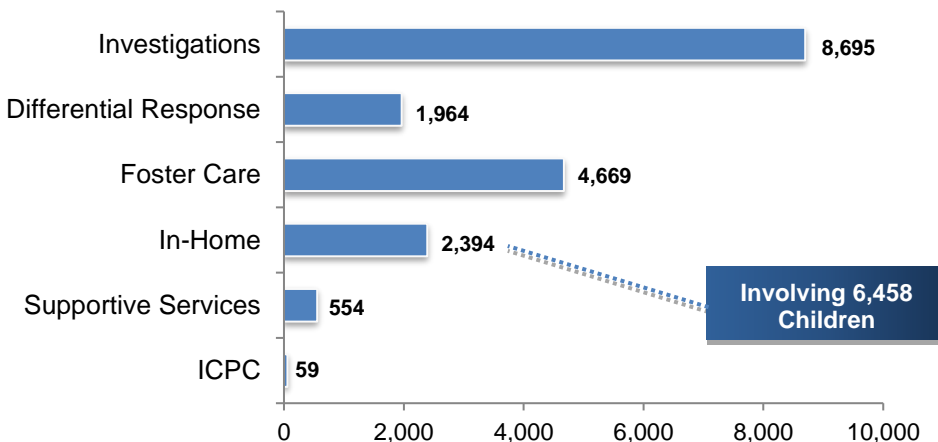
*One foster care case is equal to one child in care; one in-home or supportive services case constitutes an entire family, many of which have multiple children.*

### Caseloads Handled *During* the Quarter

This figure illustrates the number of cases that cycled through the system anytime during the quarter (as opposed to those open at the end of the quarter, described above).

The Division oversaw 8,695 investigations, 1,964 DR cases, 4,669 children in foster care, 2,394 in-home protective services cases, 554 supportive services cases, and 59 ICPC cases.

**Types of Cases Served During the Quarter**



# Quick Facts

## Average Caseload

The average caseload statewide was nearly 21 cases per worker at the end of the quarter. The Division's goal is 20 or fewer cases per worker.

The average caseload for each county as of June 2023 is presented in Appendix B.

## Foster Homes

### Foster Homes and Beds

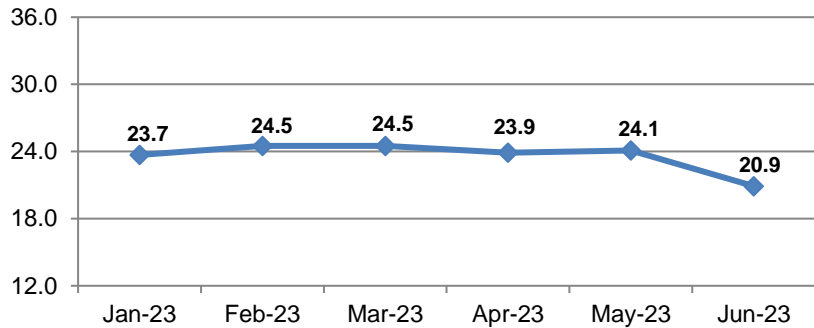
There were 1,528 licensed foster family homes open statewide at the end of the fourth quarter, providing a total of 3,033 available beds.

The number of available beds decreased from the previous quarter.

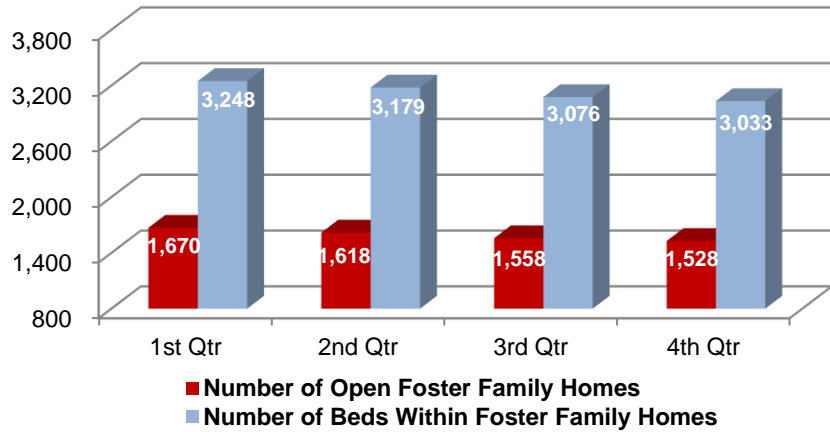
During the most recent quarter, 249 new foster homes were opened and 264 were closed, resulting in a net loss of 15 homes.

Appendix C displays the closure reasons for the foster homes that closed during the quarter.

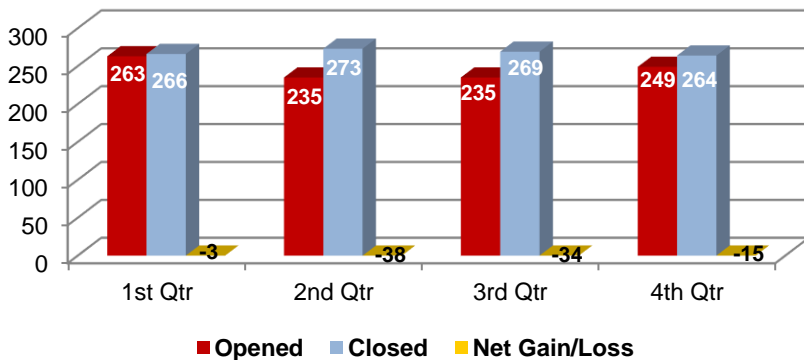
Average Caseload at the End of Month



Number of Foster Homes and Beds at the End of Quarter



Number of Foster Homes Opened and Closed During the Quarter

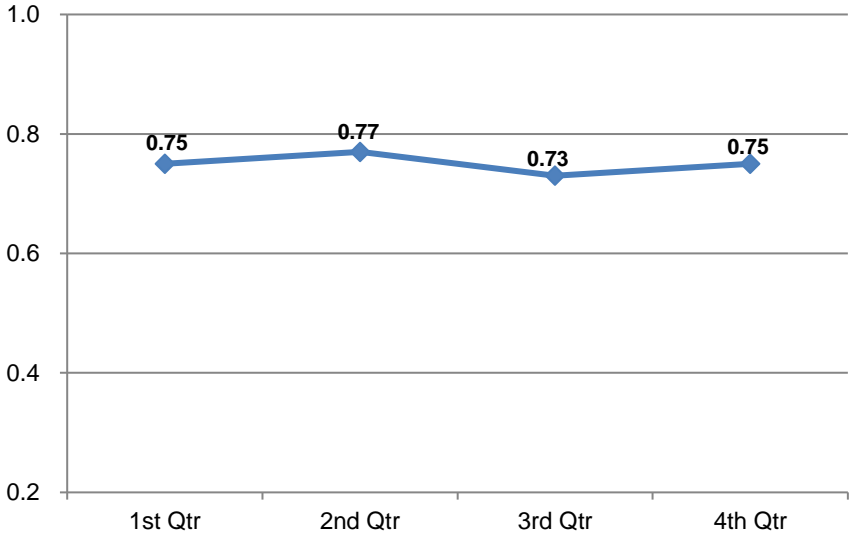




# Quick Facts

## Ratio of Foster Home Beds to Foster Children

Foster Home Bed to Foster Child Ratio

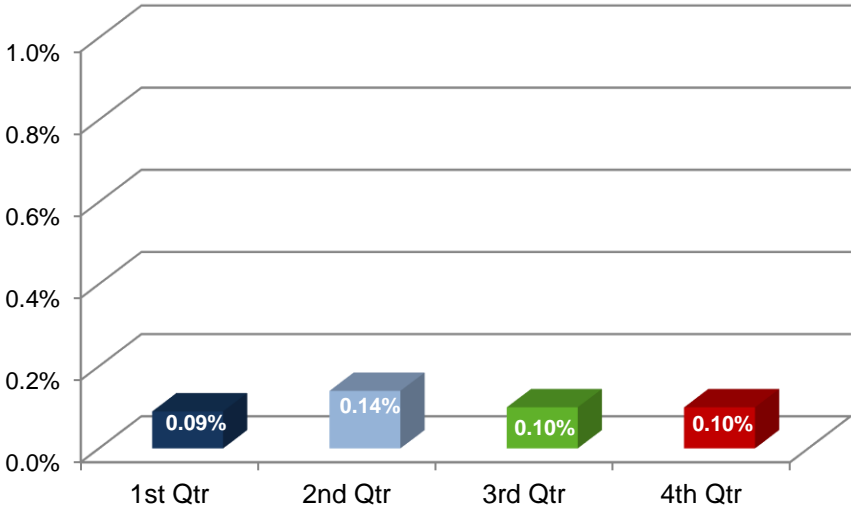


The ratio of licensed foster home beds to children in foster care stood at 0.75 at the end of the fourth quarter, similar to previous quarters.

The Division's goal is to have at least one foster home bed available for each child in foster care.

## Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment

Percentage of Foster Families with True Reports of Maltreatment



Two reports in which a foster parent was identified as an alleged offender were determined to be true during the fourth quarter. Based on the 2,076 foster homes active during that period, the percentage of foster families with a true report of maltreatment was 0.10 percent.

Appendix D provides more detail on maltreatment reports concerning foster homes.

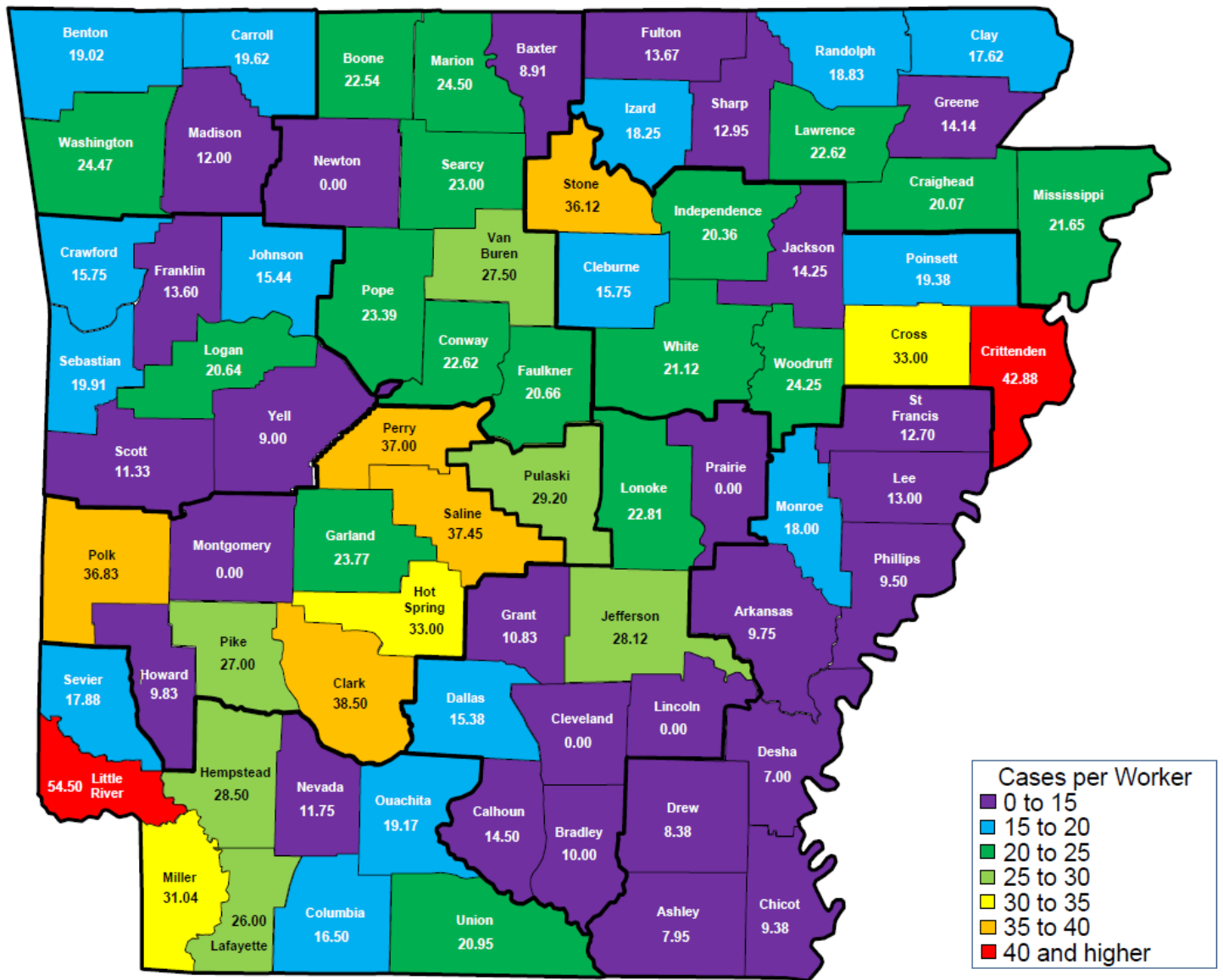


## Appendix A: Breakdown of Child Maltreatment Reports Received During the Quarter and Substantiation Rates of Maltreatment Investigations<sup>4</sup>

	DCFS				CACD		
	Total Assessments Assigned for DR	Total Assessments Assigned for Investigation	True Investigations	Percent True	Total Assessments Assigned for Investigation	True Investigations	Percent True
First Quarter 2023	906	4,714 <i>4,488 Closed</i>	1,080	24%	1,495 <i>1,413 Closed</i>	523	37%
Second Quarter 2023	1,404	6,113 <i>5,982 Closed</i>	1,188	20%	1,651 <i>1,619 Closed</i>	535	33%
Third Quarter 2023	1,522	5,517 <i>5,094 Closed</i>	1,027	20%	1,451 <i>1,330 Closed</i>	403	30%
Fourth Quarter 2023	1,471	6,020 <i>5,773 Closed</i>	1,071	19%	1,670 <i>1,542 Closed</i>	470	30%

<sup>4</sup> The data cited in this appendix run two months behind the referenced quarter (e.g., the fourth quarter refers to 2/1/2023 through 4/30/2023); as a result, the numbers cited in this appendix differ from those cited throughout the report, which considers the actual quarter. This is because investigations have a 45-day completion timeframe and this allows enough time to pass to measure the disposition of the investigations. An investigation is excluded from the calculation of the substantiation rate in the event that it has not yet been closed (and thus a disposition has not yet been rendered).

## Appendix B: Average Caseload as of June 30, 2023, by County



Cleveland, Lincoln, Montgomery, Newton, and Prairie counties did not have any family service workers at the end of the quarter; their cases were assigned to workers from other counties.

## Appendix C: Foster Home Closure Reasons

Area	County	Change in Family Circumstances	Foster Family's Decision	No Longer Meets Requirements	Adopted / Custody / Guardianship / Relative Only	Founded Abuse / Neglect	Provider / Services No Longer Needed	Other	Total
1	Benton (Bentonville)	0	10	0	6	0	1	0	17
1	Carroll (Berryville)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
1	Madison (Huntsville)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
1	Washington (Fayetteville)	0	8	2	3	0	2	0	15
2	Crawford (Van Buren)	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
2	Franklin (Ozark)	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
2	Johnson (Clarksville)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
2	Logan (Booneville)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Logan (Paris)	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5
2	Scott (Waldron)	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
2	Sebastian (Fort Smith)	0	2	0	4	0	1	0	7
2	Yell (Danville)	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
3	Clark (Arkadelphia)	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
3	Garland (Hot Springs)	0	2	0	3	0	3	0	8
3	Hot Spring (Malvern)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
3	Howard (Nashville)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
3	Montgomery (Mount Ida)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
3	Perry (Perryville)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Pike (Murfreesboro)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
3	Polk (Mena)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
3	Saline (Benton)	0	6	0	3	0	1	0	10
4	Columbia (Magnolia)	0	2	1	3	0	0	0	6
4	Hempstead (Hope)	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	4
4	Lafayette (Lewisville)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	Little River (Ashdown)	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
4	Miller (Texarkana)	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	8
4	Nevada (Prescott)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	Ouachita (Camden)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4	Sevier (DeQueen)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Union (El Dorado)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
5	Baxter (Mountain Home)	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
5	Boone (Harrison)	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	4
5	Conway (Morrilton)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
5	Faulkner (Conway)	0	7	0	6	0	0	0	13
5	Marion (Yellville)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Newton (Jasper)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Pope (Russellville)	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
5	Searcy (Marshall)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
5	Van Buren (Clinton)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
6	Pulaski (East)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Pulaski (Jacksonville)	0	3	1	2	0	1	0	7
6	Pulaski (North)	0	7	3	0	0	0	0	10
6	Pulaski (South)	0	10	3	2	0	3	0	18
6	Pulaski (Southwest)	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	4
7	Bradley (Warren)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7	Calhoun (Hampton)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Cleveland (Rison)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7	Dallas (Fordyce)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Grant (Sheridan)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Jefferson (Pine Bluff)	0	0	2	4	0	0	1	7
7	Lincoln (Star City)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Lonoke (Lonoke)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	3
7	Prairie (DeValls Bluff)	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2

Area	County	Change in Family Circumstances	Foster Family's Decision	No Longer Meets Requirements	Adopted / Custody / Guardianship / Relative Only	Founded Abuse / Neglect	Provider / Services No Longer Needed	Other	Total
8	Clay (Piggott & Corning)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
8	Craighead (Jonesboro)	0	6	2	3	0	1	0	12
8	Fulton (Salem)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Greene (Paragould)	1	2	0	5	0	1	0	9
8	Izard (Melbourne)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
8	Lawrence (Walnut Ridge)	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
8	Mississippi (Blytheville)	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	6
8	Mississippi (Osceola)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Randolph (Pocahontas)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
8	Sharp (Ash Flat)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
9	Cleburne (Heber Springs)	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
9	Crittenden (West Memphis)	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
9	Cross (Wynne)	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	4
9	Independence (Batesville)	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
9	Jackson (Newport)	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	3
9	Poinsett (Harrisburg)	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
9	Stone (Mountain View)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	White (Searcy)	0	6	1	3	0	0	0	10
9	Woodruff (Augusta)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Arkansas (Dewitt)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Arkansas (Stuttgart)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
10	Ashley (Hamburg)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Chicot (Lake Village)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
10	Desha (McGehee)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Drew (Monticello)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Lee (Marianna)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Monroe (Brinkley)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
10	Monroe (Clarendon)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Phillips (Helena)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	St. Francis (Forrest City)	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
99	Out of State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>264</b>

Details of the Major Closure Categories Above (Statewide)		
Closure Reason	Specific Reason	Number of Homes Closed
Adopted / Custody / Guardianship / Relative Only	Custody / Guardianship	47
	Child(ren) Left Care	41
Change in Family Circumstances	Personal Issues	4
	Provider Moved Out of State	1
	Death of Parent	1
Foster Family's Decision	Provider Request	89
	Changed to Adopt Only	21
	Provider Became a Private Therapeutic Foster Home	1
	Taking a Break	1
No Longer Meets Requirements	DHS Request	26
	Failed Re-Evaluation / Non-Compliance	2
Provider / Services No Longer Needed	Provider / Services No Longer Needed	29
Other	Contract Ended	1

## Appendix D: Summary of Foster Care Maltreatment Reports

### Characteristics of Children in Foster Care Involved in Allegations of Maltreatment, 4th Quarter SFY 2023

One-hundred and twenty-seven reports of alleged maltreatment involving children in foster care were received by the hotline during the fourth quarter of SFY 2023.

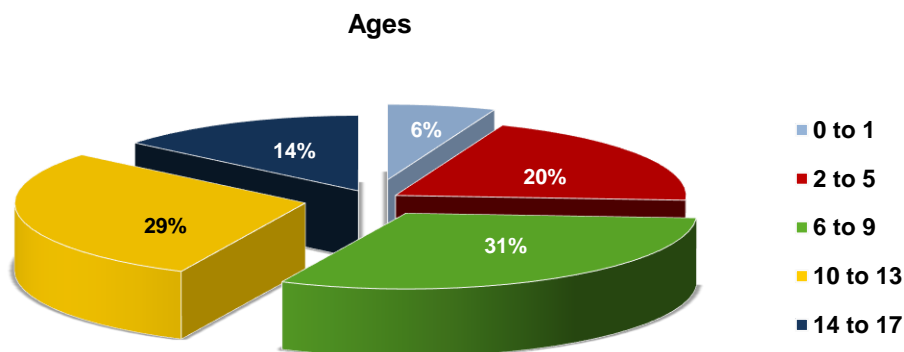
In 39 reports involving 51 children, foster parents<sup>5</sup> were identified as the alleged offenders. As shown in the following chart, two of those reports were found to be true. The foster homes identified in those two true reports were subsequently closed.

**Foster Home Maltreatment Reports  
4th Quarter SFY 2023**

True	Unsubstantiated	Pending
2	35	2

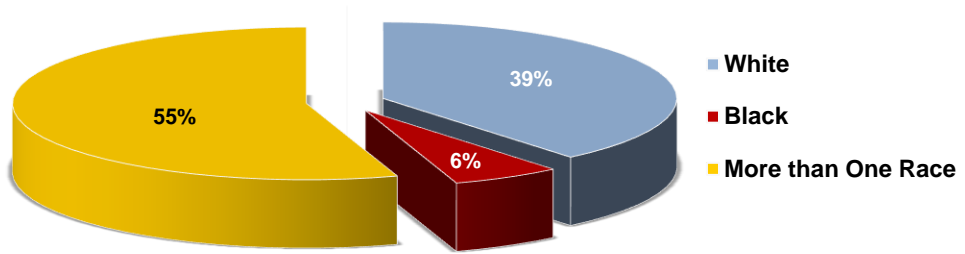
All allegations of maltreatment concerning foster homes are investigated by the Crimes Against Children Division (CACD) of the Arkansas State Police. DCFS staff do not actively participate in the investigation of these reports. Allegations of maltreatment regarding foster homes require the agency to assess the safety of all children residing in the home.

The following charts describe the characteristics of the 51 children in foster care who were involved in allegations of maltreatment with foster parents identified as the alleged offenders.

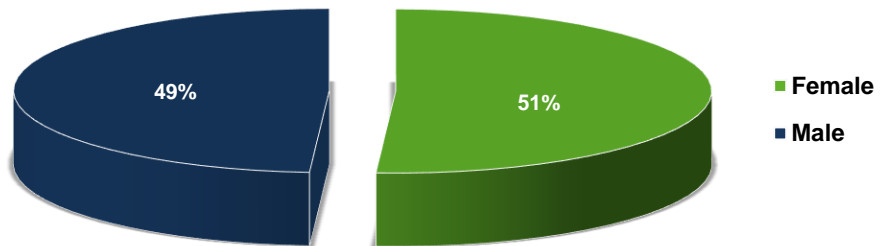


<sup>5</sup> This includes foster family homes and therapeutic foster homes.

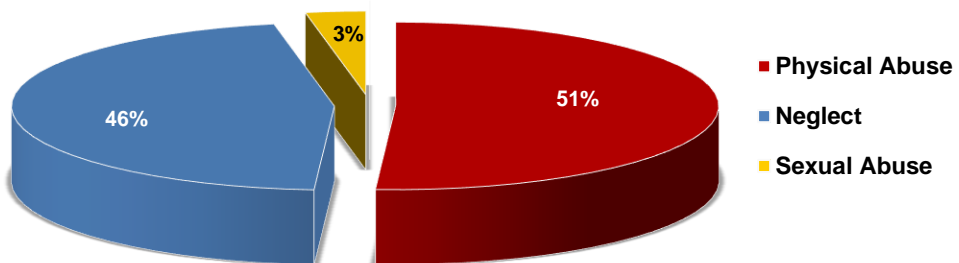
### Race / Ethnicity



### Gender



### Allegations





**Location of Foster Homes in Which Alleged Maltreatment Occurred**

<b>County</b>	<b>Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report(s)</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Number of Children Involved in Maltreatment Report(s)</b>
<b>Pulaski</b>	8	<b>Crittenden</b>	1
<b>Craighead</b>	6	<b>Faulkner</b>	1
<b>Howard</b>	4	<b>Hempstead</b>	1
<b>Independence</b>	3	<b>Jefferson</b>	1
<b>Lonoke</b>	3	<b>Monroe</b>	1
<b>Randolph</b>	3	<b>Phillips</b>	1
<b>Saline</b>	3	<b>Pike</b>	1
<b>Garland</b>	2	<b>Pope</b>	1
<b>Grant</b>	2	<b>Prairie</b>	1
<b>Miller</b>	2	<b>Sebastian</b>	1
<b>Benton</b>	1	<b>Washington</b>	1
<b>Cleveland</b>	1	<b>White</b>	1
<b>Conway</b>	1		