

A Message from DHHS and DCYF Leadership

We are pleased to share the first Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) Annual Data Book. The 2019 Data Book presents and analyzes key information on DCYF's child protection, foster and adoptive care, juvenile justice and community and family support programs.

The people at DCYF are motivated by a vision of a whole-family, integrated approach to child welfare that works upstream to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and families. As we work collaboratively with stakeholders to transform New Hampshire's child welfare system, we are simplifying structures, embracing a culture of safety, and engaging in a shoulder-to-shoulder effort among all stakeholders that will shift our focus from one of reaction to one of prevention, so that families are successful and strong before a crisis requires DCYF intervention. We extend our sincere thanks to the Child Welfare Systems Transformation Interagency Team, which has been instrumental in exploring the data, providing feedback, and supporting our efforts throughout this process.

How will we know when we have achieved that vision? Data will serve as a tool to measure our progress, detect trends, drive long-term policy, and determine whether DCYF funding is effectively invested. The data we collect will help us to identify what is working and where challenges remain. It will guide our decision-making to create a system of child well-being that allows New Hampshire families to thrive.

We are encouraged by the data in the first DCYF Data Book, which shows that for the first time since 2015, more children are exiting from out of home care than entering. This trend has remained consistent for the past six months. But there is more work to be done. We have secured funding for additional child protective service workers and supervisors to DCYF, case technicians and nursing staff, and we propose a fundamental shift in our in-home and residential services to children and families to increase clinical capacity and the use of evidence based programs.

While DCYF is a critical part of the child welfare system, the health and safety of our most vulnerable residents depends on strong partnerships among all stakeholders across the child- and family-serving system - educators, medical professionals, law enforcement agencies, parents, families and others. As we work collaboratively with our stakeholders, the data in this report will continue to inform a system of child well-being that will be permanent and successful for all New Hampshire families.

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Data reported throughout this book has been extracted from the New Hampshire statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) known as Bridges. The data cannot be generalized given the multiple processes used to query the data and the complexity of the measures. State Fiscal Year is used as the reporting period where it is feasible and appropriate to provide the most up-to-date information available. However, there are instances where the data is presented in other cyclic periods such as calendar year and federal fiscal year. Some historical data is only available in state fiscal year intervals; accordingly it is presented in state fiscal year intervals to allow for trend comparisons. Additionally, for other measures DCYF is mandated to report data to the federal government in federal fiscal year intervals. In order to ensure consistency with the data reported on significant federal measures, the federal fiscal year interval was used here. Some of the underlying data is based on service authorizations which may take additional time to process. Accordingly, the data is through Jan 2019 to ensure accuracy.

Child Protection Services

The Child Protection Bureau works to protect children from abuse and neglect while attempting to preserve the family unit. Child Protective Service Workers help prevent further harm to children from intentional physical or mental injury, sexual abuse, exploitation or neglect by a person responsible for a child's health and well-being.

Central Intake

DCYF Central Intake is the first of three primary functions in the process for resolving abuse and neglect. After a call is received by Central Intake, it is evaluated and logged into one of following categories:

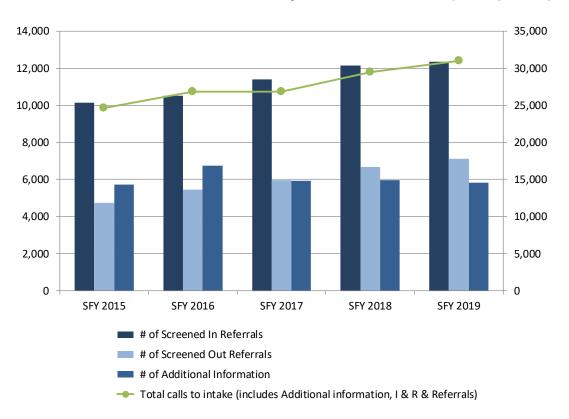
- A referral on possible child abuse and neglect;
- A call that provides additional information on an existing referral;
- A call for informational purpose only.

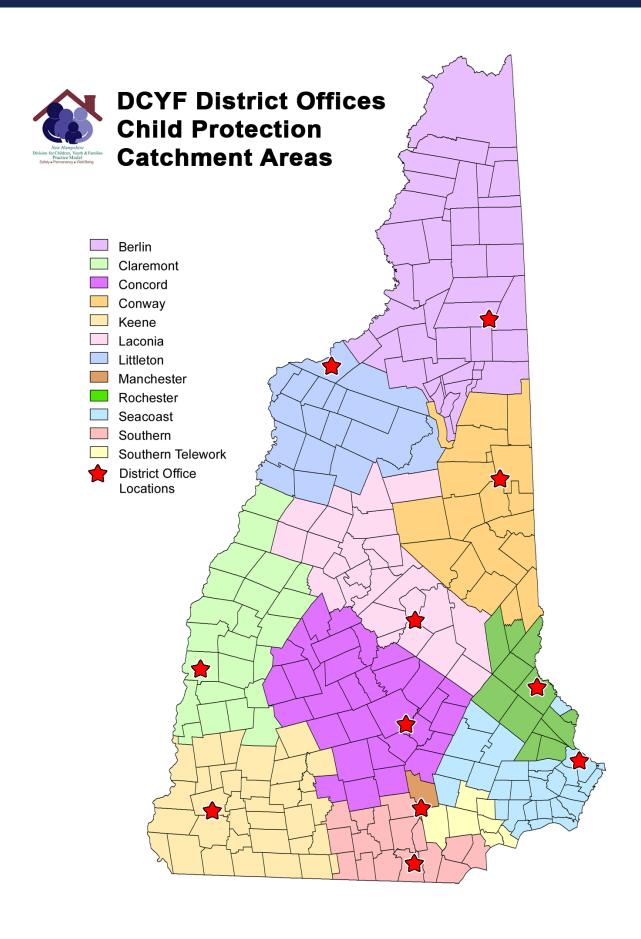
A referral can be screened in for further assessment, or screened out based on law and DCYF regulations. A screened-in referral is moved to the other primary functions of Child Protection, Assessment and Family Services.

Read more about Child Protection Services at www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cps/.

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Total calls to intake (includes Additional					
information, I & R & Referrals)	24,613	26,844	26,884	29,482	30,993
# of All Referrals	14,913	15,986	17,355	18,834	19,478
# of Screened In Referrals	10,154	10,525	11,385	12,141	12,361
# of Screened Out Referrals	4,759	5,461	5,970	6,693	7,117
% of Screen-Ins out of All Referrals	68%	66%	66%	64%	63%
% of Screen-Outs out of All Referrals	32%	34%	34%	36%	37%
# of Additional Information	5,735	6,730	5,948	5,958	5,838
# of Information & Referral	3,965	4,128	3,581	4,690	5,677
% of Additional Information of Total Calls to Intake	23%	25%	22%	20%	19%
% of Information & Referral of Total Calls to Intake	16%	15%	13%	16%	18%
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Total collateral calls DCYF Intake made	13,252	13,111	14,629	14,630	15,884

Calls to DCYF Central Intake by State Fiscal Year, 2015-2019





Assessment

After receiving a call reporting possible child maltreatment, DCYF Intake determines if that referral should be screened in for further assessment. A screened-in referral is categorized into one of three levels and is assigned to one of the DCYF District Offices. The Child Protection staff comprehensively investigate and assess each report of alleged child abuse and neglect.

Levels of assessments indicate how harmful and urgent the situation seems to be for the children. Child Protection staff responds to Level 1 assessments within 24 hours of approval for a referral to be screened in. The response priority time for Level 2 assessments is 48 hours and Level 3 is 72 hours.

"Substantiated" means that a report/referral made pursuant to RSA 169-C (NH statute) was investigated and that credible evidence of the abuse or neglect exists.

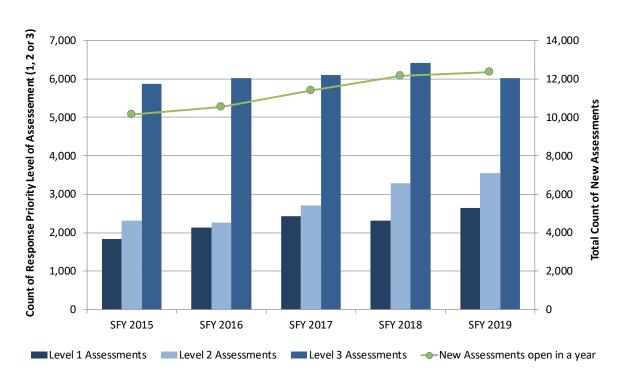
Read more about Child Protection Services at www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcyf/cps/.

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
New Assessments open in a year	10,154	10,525	11,385	12,141	12,361
Level 1 Assessments	1,834	2,126	2,436	2,309	2,642
Level 2 Assessments	2,315	2,267	2,709	3,289	3,543
Level 3 Assessments	5,871	6,019	6,108	6,412	6,024
No level assigned	134	113	132	131	152
% Level 1	18%	20%	21%	19%	21%
% Level 2	23%	22%	24%	27%	29%
% Level 3	58%	57%	54%	53%	49%
% No level assigned	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Children served in all new open assessments during the year	23,494	24,211	27,244	29,244	30,091
Individuals involved in all new assessments during the year (including children)	57,237	58,625	66,657	70,945	73,137
Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 thru September 30)	FFY 2015	FFY 2016	FFY 2017	FFY 2018	FFY 2019
Substantiated reports	5.60%	5.48%	8.05%	8.09%*	Not Available
Unique Child Victims (with at least one substantiated maltreatment)	745	905	1,151	1,335*	Not Available

Data Source: NH DCYF Program and Case Tracking System & National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System

^{*}Subject to Administration for Children and Families approval

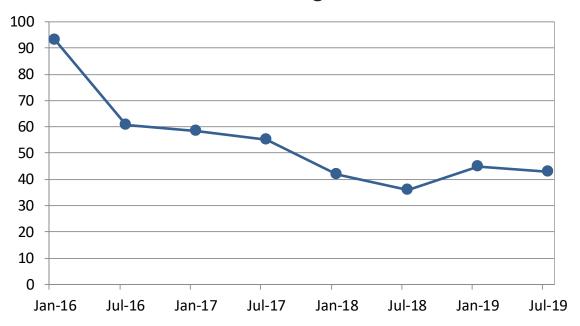
New Assessments by State Fiscal Year, 2015-2019



Assessment Workforce Capacity

Assessment workforce capacity is determined by the number of assessments open on the last day of a given month divided by the staff who are fully trained and available to assume responsibility over a full workload. This number takes into account staff members who may be out of the office on extended leave, requiring other staff to cover any active open assessments prior to the leave.

Assessment Average Workload



Data Source: Bridges, DCYF Master Staffing List & Supervisor Staff Tracking

Family Services

Treatment and rehabilitative services are provided to families whose children have been neglected or abused. If treatment and rehabilitative services are unable to provide a safe environment for the children, temporary out-of-home placement with a relative or in foster care may be utilized to provide children with the safety they require.

Family Service Cases include: Abuse, Before Court-B Child Prot., Director Authorized Only, Guardianship, ICPC, IL Aftercare, Neglect, Post-Adoption and Voluntary Services.

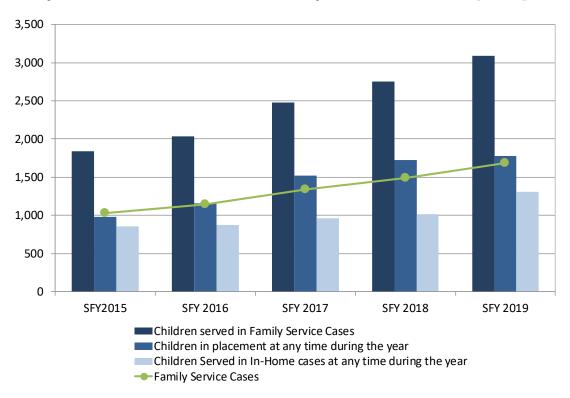
Other case types include: Adoption, Child Protection (Obsolete), Preventive Day Care, Relinquishment, NYTD and Social Services only.

	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Total NH Child Population (Under 18)	264,919	262,630	260,450	258,170	Not Available

Data Source: US Census Population Estimates (factfinder.census.gov)

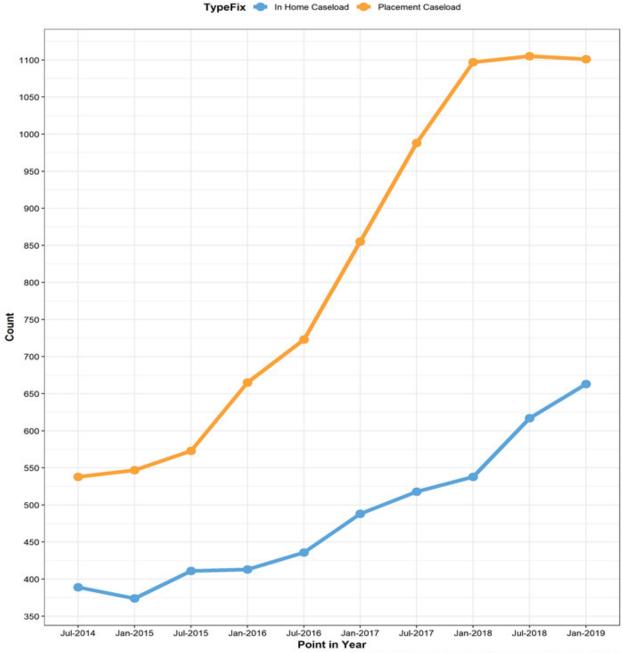
	SFY2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Family Service Cases	1,028	1,142	1,344	1,492	1,685
Children served in Family Service Cases	1,841	2,031	2,478	2,748	3,086
Children in placement at any time during the year	982	1,160	1,517	1,729	1,779
Children Served in In-Home cases at any time during the year	859	871	961	1,019	1,307
% of Children Served in placement	53%	57%	61%	63%	58%
% of Children Served in In-Home cases	47%	43%	39%	37%	42%
Individuals involved in Family Service cases at any time during the year	5,518	5,890	7,151	7,999	9,005

Family Services Cases and Clients by State Fiscal Year, 2015-2019



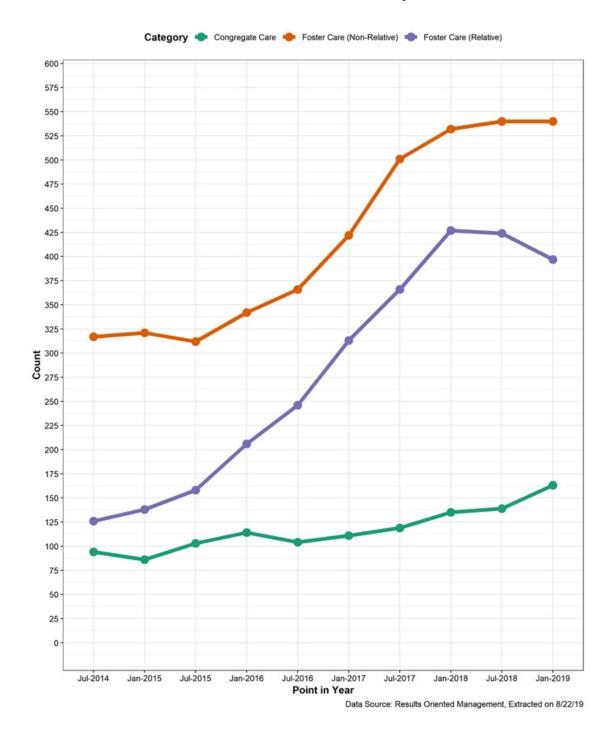
Child Protective Services Involvement Count, July 2014-January 2019

Count of Children Involved on Caseload at the Start of the Report Period



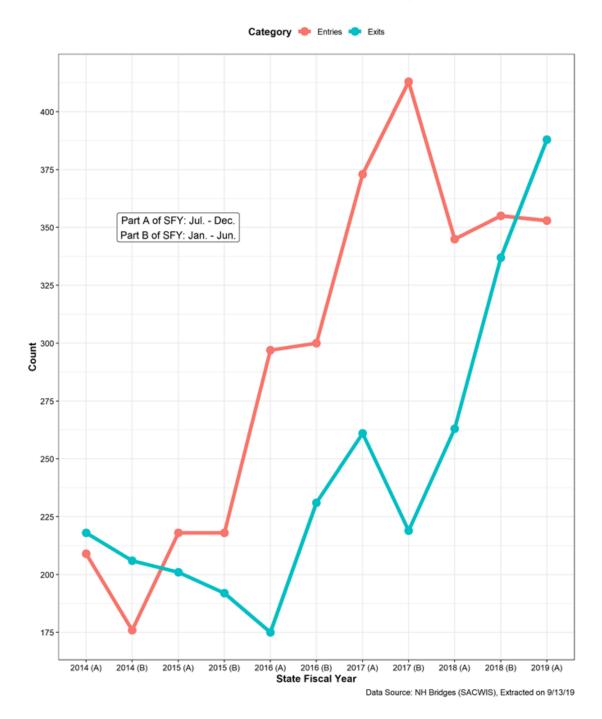
Child Protective Services Youth in Placement by Type, July 2014-January 2019

Children in Care at the Start of the Report Period



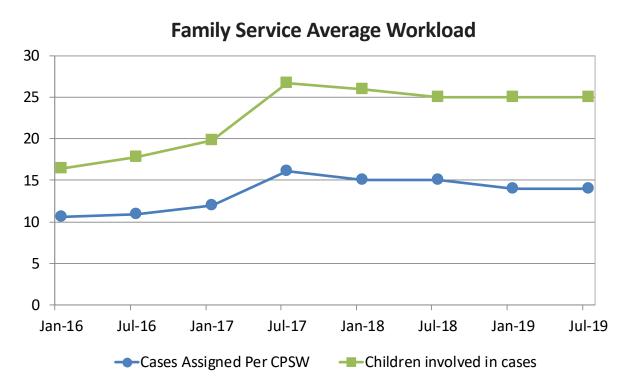
Child Protective Services Placement Entries and Exits State Fiscal Year 2014-2019 (partial)

Entries and Exits Anytime During the Report Period



Family Services Workforce Capacity

Family Service workforce capacity shows both ongoing case counts as well as the number of children involved in the cases. Workforce capacity is determined by the number of cases open/children involved on the last day of the given month, divided by the staff members who are fully trained and available to assume responsibility over a full workload. This number takes into account any staff member who may be out of the office on extended leave which requires other staff to cover any case activities during that leave.

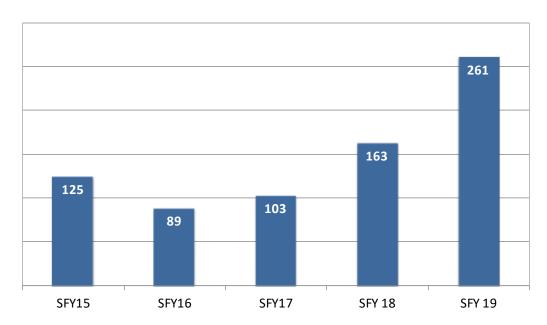


Data Source: Bridges, DCYF Master Staffing List & Supervisor Staff Tracking

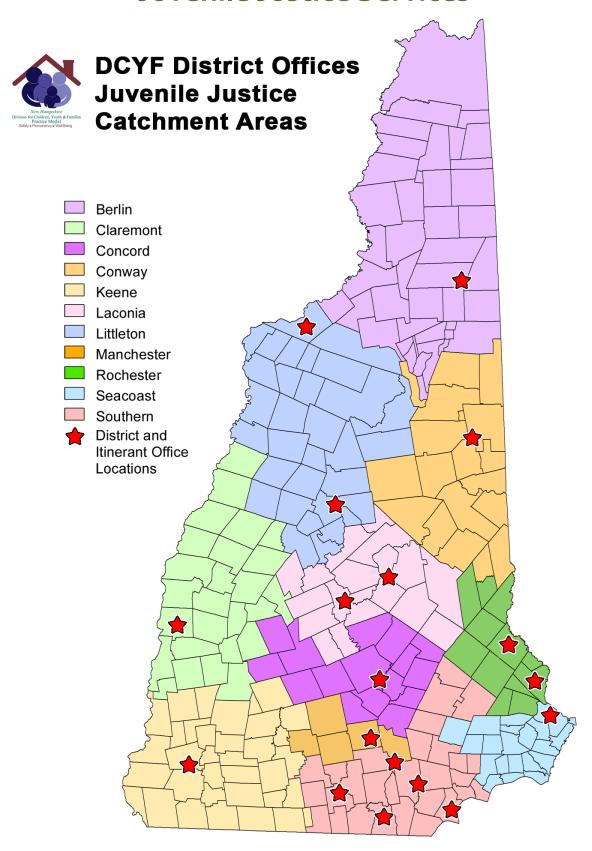
Adoption Services

Most children entering foster care as a result of abuse and/or neglect are able to successfully reunify with their family. However, when children and youth cannot safely return home, Adoption is the preferred alternative permanency plan.

Number of Children Adopted During Each State Fiscal Year



Juvenile Justice Services



Case Distribution

Juvenile Justice Services (JJS) is responsible for providing supervision and rehabilitative services to youth adjudicated under state law as delinquent or as Children In Need of Services (CHINS).

In addition, Juvenile **diversion** and mediation programs provide communities they serve with an alternative means of dispute resolution for youth who commit minor offenses, are first-time offenders, or are very young. Other JJS case types include **CHINS Without Court-W**, Interstate Commission for Juveniles (ICJ), Non-Court Day, Non-Court Resident, and Pending Enrollment.

JJS cases are either administrative cases or non-administrative cases. Administrative cases were cases brought before the court and the youths entered into alternative agreements with, and have some responsibility to, the court. These youth are not on conditional release or receiving services from DCYF and DCYF has minimal supervision and reporting responsibilities.

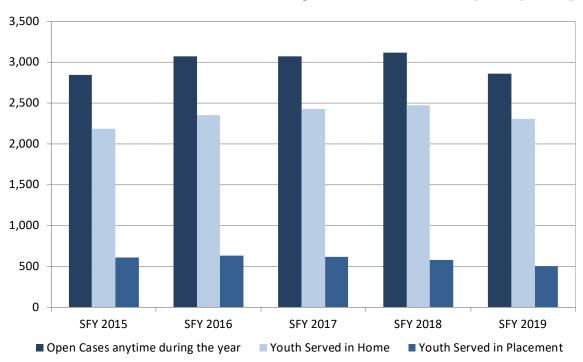
Identified Youth can be served in home or in placement. Youth In Placement are served in residential community based programs including: foster or relative care, group home, residential treatment facilities, institutions and the Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC).

Meanwhile, other children in the household or siblings of the identified Youth are automatically part of the case and served by DCYF as **Siblings**.

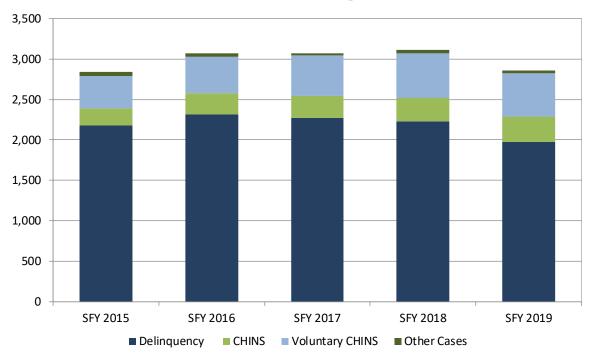
	SFY 2015	SFY 2016	SFY 2017	SFY 2018	SFY 2019
Total number of cases open at any time during the year	2,840	3,072	3,069	3,112	2,858
Delinquency	2,176	2,314	2,273	2,226	1,974
CHINS	212	262	274	294	318
Diversion	25	14	*	*	*
CHINS Without Court-W	402	453	501	555	534
Other	25	29	21	37	32
Administrative cases	828	746	773	697	669
Non-Administrative cases	2,012	2,326	2,296	2,415	2,189
Total number of Individuals involved in a JJS case at any time during the year	11,166	11,749	11,970	12,061	11,317
Youth/Children served in a JJS case at any time during the year (identified & siblings)	3,222	3,453	3,392	3,357	3,071
Identified Youth	2,793	2,983	3,045	3,050	2,802
In Placement	609	630	616	577	499
In-Home	2,184	2,353	2,429	2,473	2,303
Siblings	429	470	347	307	269
Number of New Petitions Filed	2,845	3,353	3,174	3,231	2,925
Delinquency Petitions	2,717	3,211	3,033	3,075	2,758
CHINS Petitions	128	142	141	156	167

^{*} indicates a count less than 5. Therefore, the count was added to the "Other" category as not to mask more than one type of case.

Juvenile Justice Services Cases by State Fiscal Years, 2015-2019



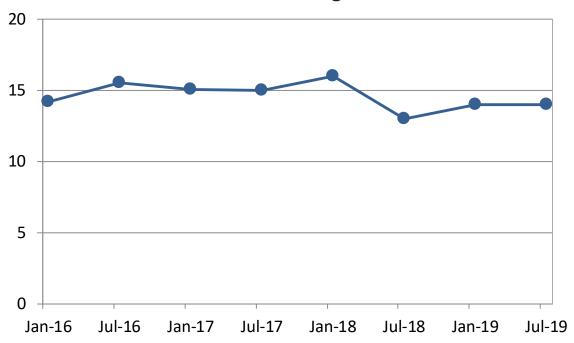
Juvenile Justice Services Cases by Type, 2015-2019 (Open anytime during the year)



Juvenile Justice Services Workforce Capacity

Juvenile Justice workforce capacity is determined by the number of cases open on the last day of the given month divided by the staff who are fully trained and available to assume responsibility over a full workload. This number takes into account any staff who may be out of the office on extended leave, requiring other staffs to cover any case activities during that leave.

Juvenile Justice Average Workload



Data Source: Bridges, DCYF Master Staffing List & Supervisor Staff Tracking

Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC)

Admissions refers only to those youth that entered SYSC in the time period. Youth who were already at SYSC are not counted. Admission is an Event count. This means all admissions are counted. If a single individual is admitted, discharged, and admitted again during the defined time period, they are counted Twice.

Population refers to the total number of Youth who spent any amount of the time period at SYSC. Population is an Individual count. This means that any individual who was admitted to SYSC for any time during that period is counted. If a single individual is admitted, discharged, and admitted again during the defined time period, they are counted once.

Committed (COM) refers to those Youth who are placed in the custody and care of SYSC by the Court as described in NH RSA 621:3.

Detained (DET) refers to Youth temporarily at SYSC while awaiting disposition of the court as described in NH RSA 621-A.

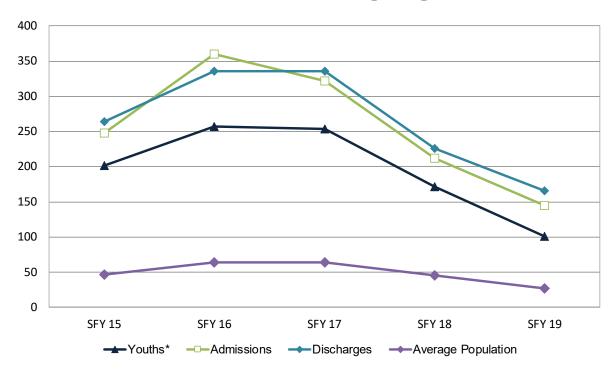
Youth Days are the accumulative number of days all youth are at SYSC.

	Population Population														
		2015			2016			2017			2018			2019	
	СОМ	DET	тот	СОМ	DET	тот	СОМ	DET	тот	СОМ	DET	тот	сом	DET	TOT
Youths*		202			257			254			172			101	
Admissions	96	152	248	105	255	360	108	214	322	74	138	212	81	64	145
Discharges	109	155	264	89	247	336	117	219	336	87	139	226	96	70	166
Average Population	38.8	7.5	46.2	48.0	15.9	63.8	51.7	12.5	64.1	35.3	9.9	45.1	21.2	5.8	26.9
Youth Days	14,039	2,568	16,608	17,468	5,564	23,033	18,755	4,338	23,092	12,754	3,457	16,211	7,738	2,117	9,855
						Comn	nitted Yo	outh							
	9	SFY 201	5	9	FY 201	6	9	FY 201	7	SFY 2018			SFY 2019		
# Committed at SYSC*		101			105			123		86			59		
Average Previous Placements		7.1			6.4 6.3		6.3			6.6		7.8			
Average Petitions**		9.0		9.7				9.5	9.6			12.2			
						Deta	ined Yo	uth							
	9	SFY 201	5	9	FY 201	6	9	FY 201	7	9	SFY 201	8	9	FY 201	9
# Detained at SYSC *		136			210			184		116				58	
Average Previous Placements		3.7			3.7			3.4			3.7			3.8	
Average Petitions**		7.5			7.5			6.8			7.5			11.5	

^{*} Youth can be Detained and Committed in the same year. In 2014, 112 Committed Youth, 177 Detained Youth, and 246 Total Youth were served. 112+177-246= 43 Youth were both committed and detained in 2014.

^{**} The number of petitions includes all delinquency petitions up until the end of the State Fiscal Year in which they were at SYSC

Sununu Youth Services Center (SYSC) Population Data State Fiscal Year 2015-2019



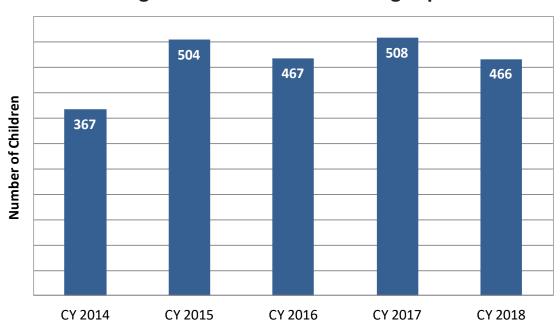
* Youth can be Detained and Committed in the same year. In 2014, 112 Committed Youth, 177 Detained Youth, and 246 Total Youth were served. 112+177-246= 43 Youth were both committed and detained in 2014.

Substance Misuse

Time period	Number of children born drug exposed in accepted assessments
CY 2014	367
CY 2015	504
CY 2016	467
CY 2017	508
CY 2018	466

Child Born Drug Exposed means infants exposed to alcohol, prescription drugs, misuse of over-the-counter medications, inhalants, and illicit drugs (cannabis, hallucinogens, opioids, stimulants, sedative hypnotics) while the infant is in utero, whether prescribed or not, which result in the infant exhibiting withdrawal symptoms at birth.

Investigations with Child Born Drug Exposed

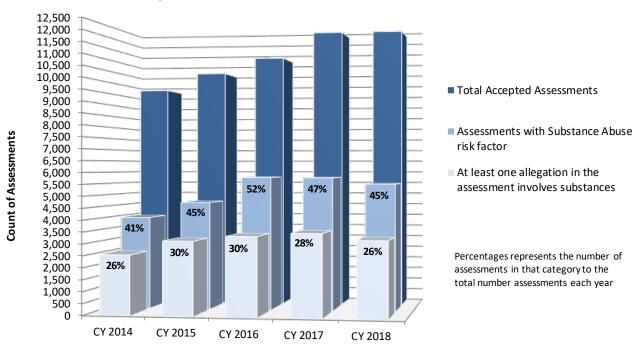


Impact of Substance Use on Assessments, 2014-2018

	Total Accepted Assessments	Assessments with Substance Abuse risk factor	At least one allegation in the assessment involves substances
CY 2014	9,762	4,007	2,550
CY 2015	10,516	4,675	3,147
CY 2016	11,197	5,771	3,364
CY 2017	12,331	5,758	3,504
CY 2018	12,341	5,491	3,237

This data is relative to an assessment when it is accepted for further investigation. The allegation and risk factor are determined by the intake Child Protective Service Worker at the time the referral is received at DCYF Central Intake.

Accepted Assessments with Substances Indicated

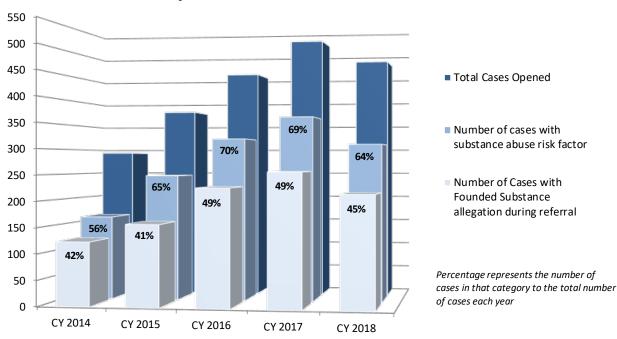


Impact of Substance Use on Family Services Cases, 2014-2018

	Total cases opened	Number of cases with substance abuse risk factor	Number of cases with a founded substance allegation during referral
CY 2014	293	164	123
CY 2015	379	247	157
CY 2016	457	320	226
CY 2017	525	363	256
CY 2018	481	309	215

This data pertains to open child protection family service cases where an allegation of substance use was made at the time of assessment and determined to be founded. The risk factor was indicated when the assessment was closed and the family services case was opened.

Cases Opened with Substance Misuse Indicated



Comprehensive Family Support Services

Comprehensive Family Support Services are preventative services provided by Family Resource Centers (FRC) across the state.

Data is self-reported to the FRC by the family. Substance abuse issues are identified for the individual entered on the Service Plan. This does not include other family members who have issues. If relatives are caring for the child(ren) because of the parent's drug use and the relative is receiving CFSS with the child(ren) then they would not be documented for substance abuse issues.

Entry is defined when the family engages with the provider to participate in services.

Data for Families Served Any Time During the State Fiscal Year

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Families Served during year	871	1,048	1,027	1,004	1,098
Total Family Members Served = Children	1,664	1,926	1,695	1,692	1,843
# Families with Children < 5 yrs old	470	747	612	607	601
Data Calcu	lated at Enti	у			
Families Entering Service	547	759	620	631	750
Family with Low Income – self-reported at entry	88%	92%	88%	86%	86%
Families that have a Single Caregiver	54%	49%	50%	51%	51%
Families Referred by DCYF/Intake/Assessment -					
Referral that entered service *	27%	27%	28%	29%	38%
Families that have Mental Health Issues	57%	57%	48%	55%	54%
Families that have Chronic Health Issues	31%	28%	33%	35%	36%
Children that have Child Medicaid Insurance	85%	93%	93%	91%	88%
Adults without any Health Insurance	35%	29%	12%	11%	13%
Families with Substance Abuse Issues	15%	16%	12%	14%	16%
Exit	Data				
Families Discharging in FY	572	613	646	638	637

^{*} DCYF referrals are counted at entry. Count does not include DCYF referrals that did not enter into services with the provider.

Resources

	SFY 2015		SFY :	2016	SFY 2017		SFY 2018		SFY 2019	
	Jul-14	Jan-15	Jul-15	Jan-16	Jul-16	Jan-17	Jul-17	Jan-18	Jul-18	Jan-19
Relative Homes Open on the 1st	229	183	205	283	320	357	429	509	689	596
Foster Homes Open on the 1st	685	681	680	675	664	658	748	782	812	767
Homes counted as both relative and foster	57	33	51	58	50	45	45	49	43	47
New Foster Homes within the State Fiscal Year	1!	53	13	36	24	14	17	72	18	37

Data Source: Bridges (NH SACWIS)

Note: Foster homes count includes child placing agency foster homes (approximately 15-24% of open foster homes.)

Foster homes are licensed for different numbers of children. The maximum number of children under the age of 21 including non-foster children in a two parent household is 6 and the maximum number is 4 in a single parent household. Some foster homes are adoption only homes and/or licensed for a specific child. There is a delay in closing relative homes as a provider, if /when a child moves from the home.

Foster and Relative Care

