



Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families



Picture Source: RI DCYF website – [dcyf.ri.gov](http://dcyf.ri.gov)

# **Community Based Services**

## **Contracted by RI DCYF**

**July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (SFY21)**

**Entry Cohort**

**Data and Evaluation**

June 2022

# Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (RI DCYF)

## RI DCYF Contracted Community Based Services

7/1/2020 – 6/30/2021 (FY21) Entry Cohort

### Introduction

The Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families (RI DCYF) in collaboration with community providers offer various community-based services as part of early efforts to preserve families caring for their children and youth as well as to promote their overall well-being. The primary purpose of this report is to provide a preliminary data on the profile of children, youth and families involved with RI DCYF (assigned to RI DCYF family service or juvenile probation caseworker), receiving **RI DCYF contracted community based contracted services during July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 (FY21). Children are followed for 12 months from the start of the community-based service to observe outcomes.** This information can assist RI's Child Welfare System of Care in service array planning to meet the needs of children and families.

**Children, youth and families may have received additional services paid through private insurances and those are not captured in this report during this same time period. Additionally, this report does not include families engaged with Family Care Community Partnerships (FCCPs) and community-based services provided by the FCCPs.**

Between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021, 2390 youth and 66 caregivers (a duplicated count by service type) entered at least one type of DCYF contracted community-based services. This number represents only the target children whom the service was billed for. A family may have more than one child being supported by the family centered community based programs. Entry into one of the community-based programs is defined as no previous enrollment in that particular program for at least 60 days. This parameter was selected due to the nature in which the data is collected and fiscal data submission processes; this could potentially yield limitations in the entry definition. As the primary purpose of this preliminary data report is for community-based service array utilization during FY21 and initial data on selected outcomes, this report does not include dosage analysis on outcomes.

### Children and youth in-home – selected outcomes

The report mainly focuses on 1337 entry cohort of children and youth between ages 0 and 21 who are involved with DCYF's child welfare, behavioral health and/or juvenile justice and started at least one type of DCYF contracted community-based services initially received while in home in FY20. These youth were then followed for 12 months from the start of their services to see if they experienced any of these selected outcomes consistent with the program objectives within the given period:

- 1) Removals from home,
- 2) Child Protective Services (CPS) investigation,
- 3) CPS indication of maltreatment,
- 4) Stay at the Youth Development Center (YDC) and/or
- 5) Adjudication in the juvenile justice system.

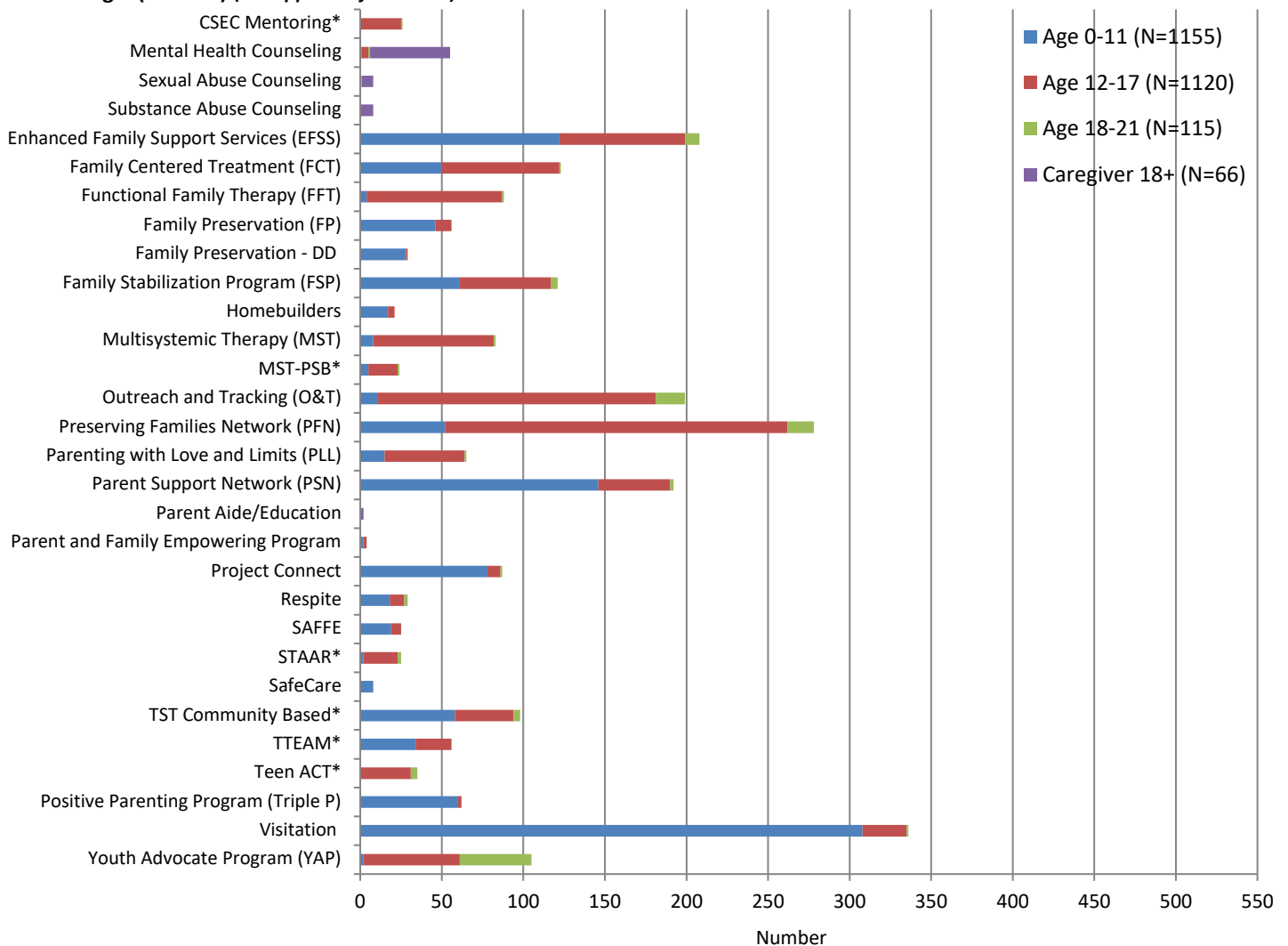
This report, Community Based Services (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021 entry cohort), was produced by the Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families' Data and Evaluation Unit. If you have questions or require additional information about this report, please contact Colleen Caron, Director of RI DCYF Division of Performance Improvement and epidemiologist, at [Colleen.Caron@dcyf.ri.gov](mailto:Colleen.Caron@dcyf.ri.gov), or Kyeonghee Kim, RI DCYF epidemiologist, at [Kyeonghee.Kim@dcyf.ri.gov](mailto:Kyeonghee.Kim@dcyf.ri.gov).

## Children, youth and caregivers receiving selected RI DCYF funded community based services

In FY21, there were a total of 2,456 children, youth and caregivers who received RI DCYF contracted community-based services through RI DCYF community providers and partners. The aim of these services is to preserve families, maintain safety and promote overall family well-being. The PFN and EFSS, along with Family Preservation (FP) and Family Stabilization Program (FSP), are programs aimed to help families stay together or reunify and the majority of the children were primarily serviced by these programs.

- ✓ The largest proportion of those receiving services were in age group 0-11, 1155 children, followed by age group 12-17, 1120 children.
- ✓ The most frequently utilized service was Visitation, followed by Preserving Families Network (PFN).
- ✓ The number of youth and caregivers who started a community based service decreased from 2850 to 2456.

**Figure 1. Number of youth and caregivers who started at least one type of community-based services in FY21, by service type and age. (N=2456) (see appendix for details)**



\*CSEC Mentoring (Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Mentoring); MST-PSB (Multisystemic Therapy for Problem Sexual Behavior); SAFFE (Supporting Adoptive and Foster Families Everywhere); STAAR (Supporting Teens and Adults At-Risk); TST (Trauma Systems Therapy); TTEAM (Trauma Treatment, Evaluation, Assessment, and Management); Teen ACT (Teen Assertive Community Treatment).

**NOTES:**

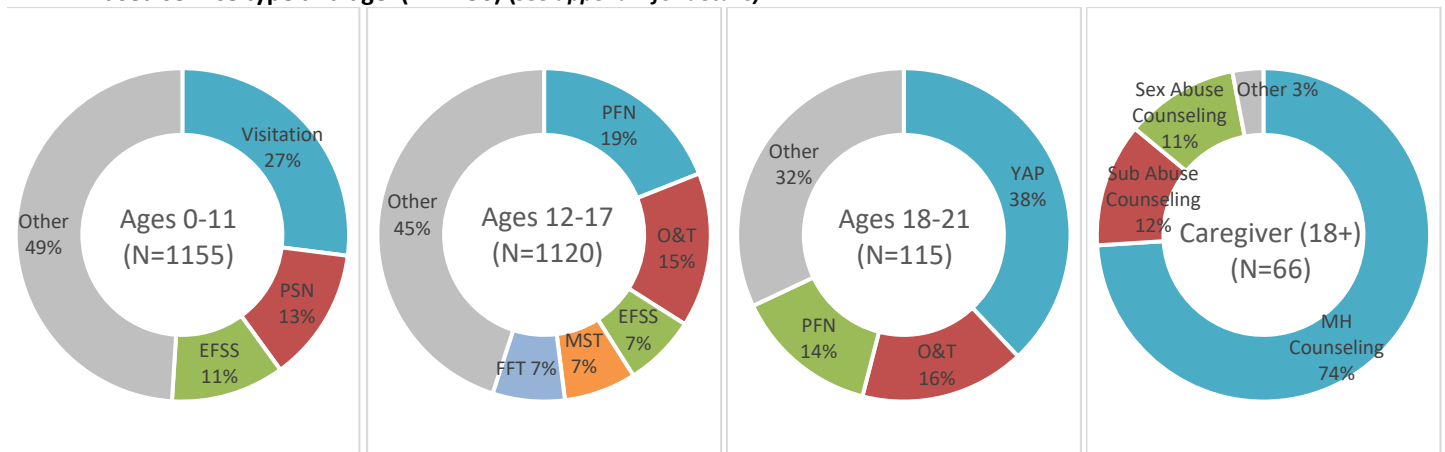
- A youth may be counted in more than one category if age at the start of each community based service falls under multiple categories.
- Data duplicated by service type. If a youth received multiple services FY21, a youth is counted once for each service. If a youth received a same service with more than 60 days gap between the sessions, it is counted as separate service episodes and a youth is counted more than once.
- Youth who started a service while YDC, psychiatric hospital or absent from care are excluded from this report.
- Visitation includes Visitation Center (provided by Boys Town, Community Care Alliance and Family Service of Rhode Island) and Children’s Museum visitation.
- TST community based indicates service started in-home. The youth may have continued the service in-home or out-of-home.

## Most frequently utilized community-based programs by age group

As services are often tailored to different age groups, the utilization of services is stratified by age revealing different utilization patterns. Figure 2 shows the percent among age categories by their most frequently used service types. Compared to FY20 entry cohort, similar trend in the utilization of the services was observed across all age groups. Other includes all services (26 services listed in appendix table 1) excluding the most frequent services shown in Figure 2; each service type under “other” had less than 10%.

- ✓ Among younger children age 0-11, the largest proportion of children received visitation, 27%.
- ✓ Among children age 12-17, 19% received Preserving Families Network, followed by Outreach and Tracking, 15%.
- ✓ Among youth age 18-21, the largest proportion received Youth Advocate Program.
- ✓ Among caregivers, the largest proportion received counseling services; mental health counseling, approximately 74%.

**Figure 2. Percent of youth and caregivers who started at least one type of community-based services in FY21, by most frequently used service type and age. (N=2456) (see appendix for details)**



**NOTES:**

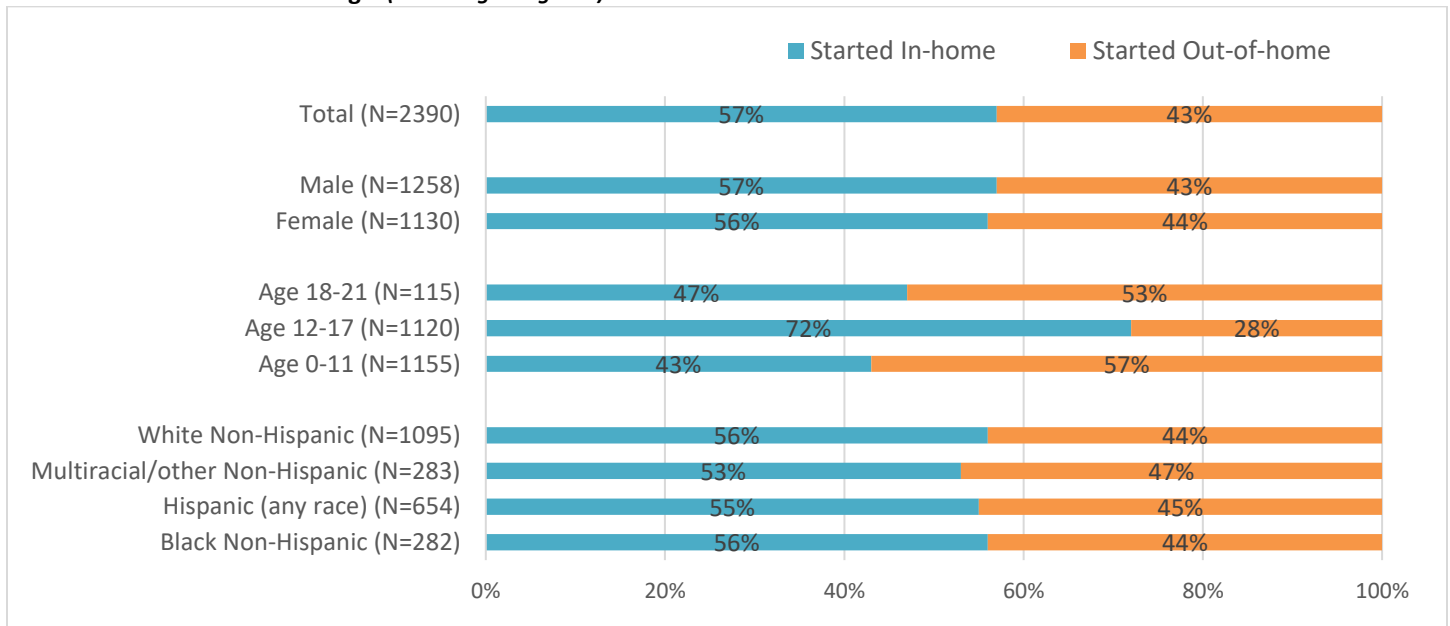
- A youth may be counted in more than one category if age at the start of each community-based service falls under multiple categories.
- Data duplicated by service type. If a youth received multiple services in FY20, a youth is counted once for each service. If a youth received a same service with more than 60 days gap between the sessions, it is counted as separate service episodes and a youth is counted more than once.
- Youth who started a service while YDC, psychiatric hospital or absent from care are excluded from this report.
- Visitation includes Visitation Center (provided by Boys Town, Community Care Alliance and Family Service of Rhode Island) and Children’s Museum visitation.

## Placement type at service start (In-home vs Out-of-home)

Figure 3 provides data on children and youth and whether they resided in-home or in an out-of-home placement when they started the community-based services.

- ✓ About 57% of children receiving services were in home when they began a community-based service. Similar trend was observed in previous years.
- ✓ Among children age 0-11, about 43% started a service in-home while 72% of the older children age 12-17 started in-home. One explanation for this difference may be visitation program, primarily aimed at young children in foster family setting to support visits with their primary caregivers. Also, some of the services delivered to young children in-home are targeted at their parents and may not be captured in this report.

**Figure 3. Number and percent of youth who started at least one type of community-based service in FY21, by placement type at the service start and age. (excluding caregivers)**



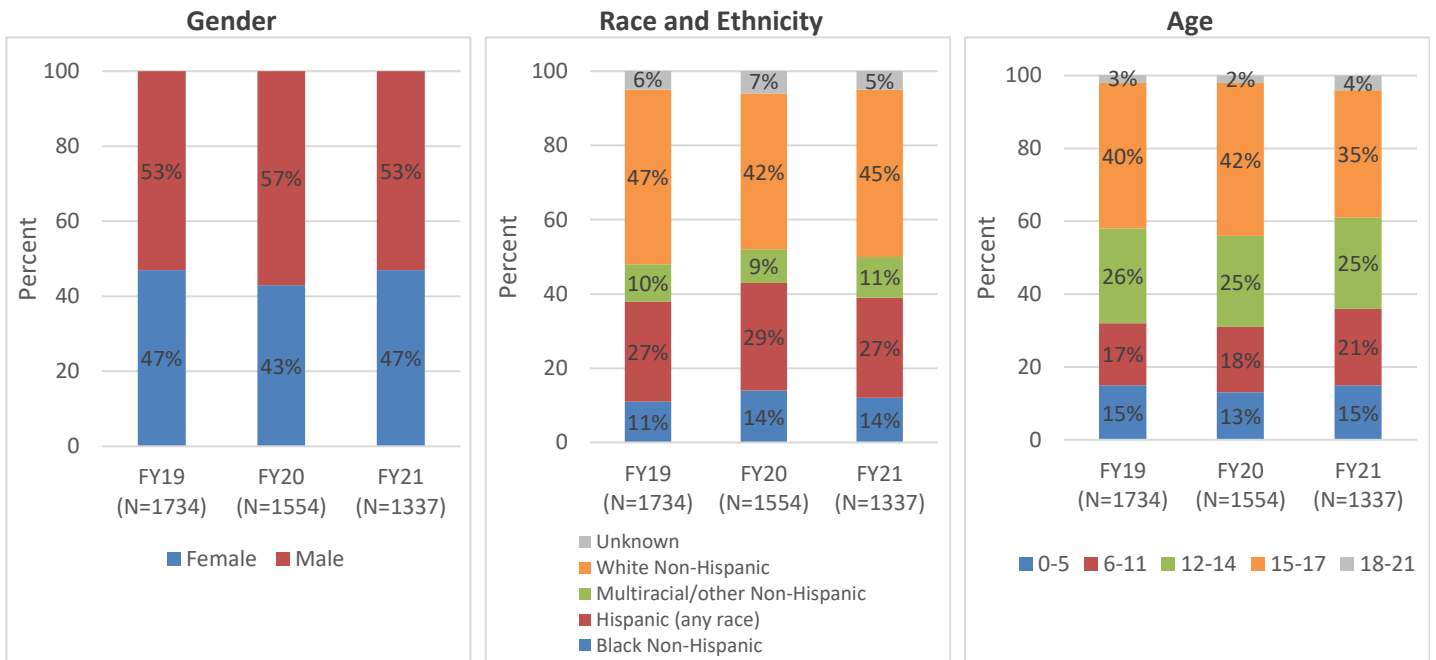
**NOTES:**

- Excluded caregivers.
- In-home placements defined in this report include living arrangement of stay with friend, guardian, married parents, relatives, separated couple, single female parent, single male parent, subsidized adoption, and unmarried couple. This is not exclusively child welfare placement.
- Out-of-home placements defined in this report include assessment and stabilization center, group home, independent living (funded or unfunded), relative foster home, relative foster home – pending license, non-relative foster home, private agency foster care, pre-adoptive home, residential facility, and respite care. This is not exclusively child welfare placement.

## Demographics of *IN-HOME* population

- ✓ In FY21, 53% of children and youth who started a community-based service while in-home were male, 45% were White Non-Hispanic and largest proportion, 35% were between ages 15-17.
- ✓ Across 3 years, there were minimal changes in the demographics of youth who started a community-based service while in-home.

**Figure 4. Demographics of youth who started community-based services from *IN-HOME* in FY19-FY21 (Excluding visitation service).**



**NOTES:**

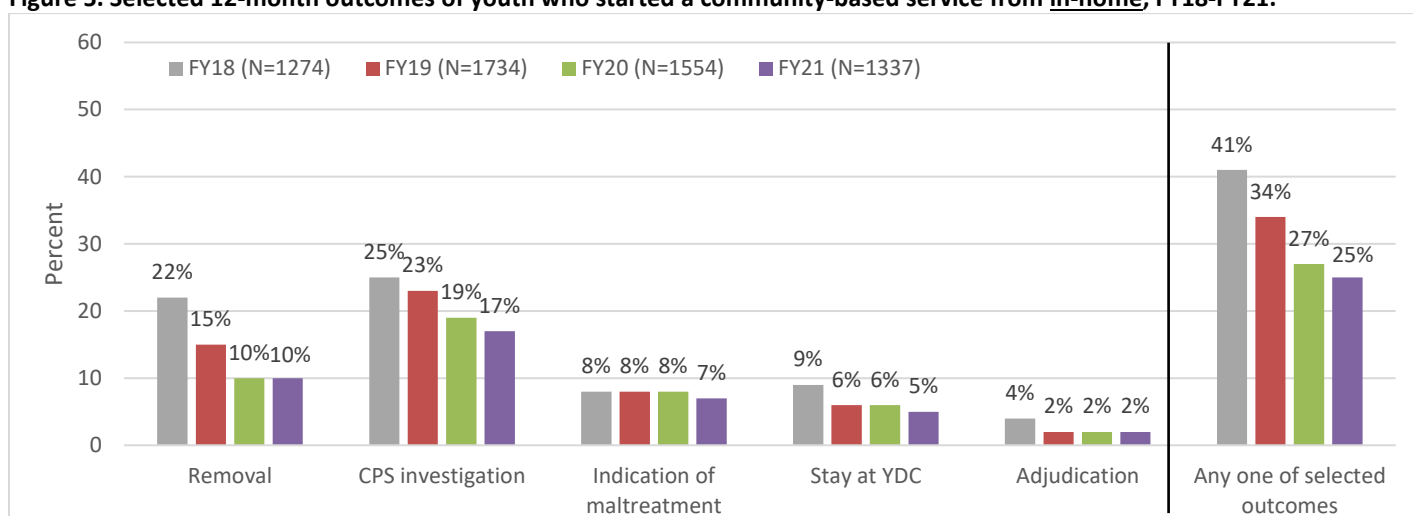
- In-home placements defined in this report include living arrangement of stay with friend, guardian, married parents, relatives, separated couple, single female parent, single male parent, subsidized adoption, and unmarried couple. This is not exclusively child welfare placement.
- 18 children who started visitation while in-home were excluded from the analysis.

## Selected 12-month outcomes of children and youth who started a community-based service from **IN-HOME**

Figure 5 provides data on children and youth who started a RI DCYF contracted community-based service from in-home in FY18-FY21 and experienced at least one of the 5 selected outcomes within 12 months of starting a service; removal from home, CPS investigation, indication of maltreatment, stay at Youth Development Center (YDC) or adjudication. Depending on the length of time a youth received a service, a youth may or may not have been receiving the service at the time of experiencing the outcome.

- ✓ Across the four year period, FY18-21, there was decrease in all 5 outcomes.
- ✓ Experiencing at least one of the selected outcomes also decreased from 41% to 25% over the four fiscal years.
- ✓ Compared to FY20 entry cohort, FY21 entry cohort of children remained home longer without experiencing a selected outcome.

**Figure 5. Selected 12-month outcomes of youth who started a community-based service from in-home, FY18-FY21.**



**Table 1. Median length of time (days) between service start and selected 12-month outcomes for youth who started a community-based service from in-home in FY18-FY21.**

	FY18 entry cohort		FY19 entry cohort		FY20 entry cohort		FY21 entry cohort	
	N	Days	N	Days	N	Days	N	Days
Removal from home	281	112	265	128	161	109	133	123
CPS investigation	314	129	405	146	293	127	222	144
Indication of maltreatment	101	137	137	171	118	138	93	165
Stay at YDC	116	105	101	117	87	70	62	137
Adjudication	47	137	38	151	37	130	24	147

**NOTES:**

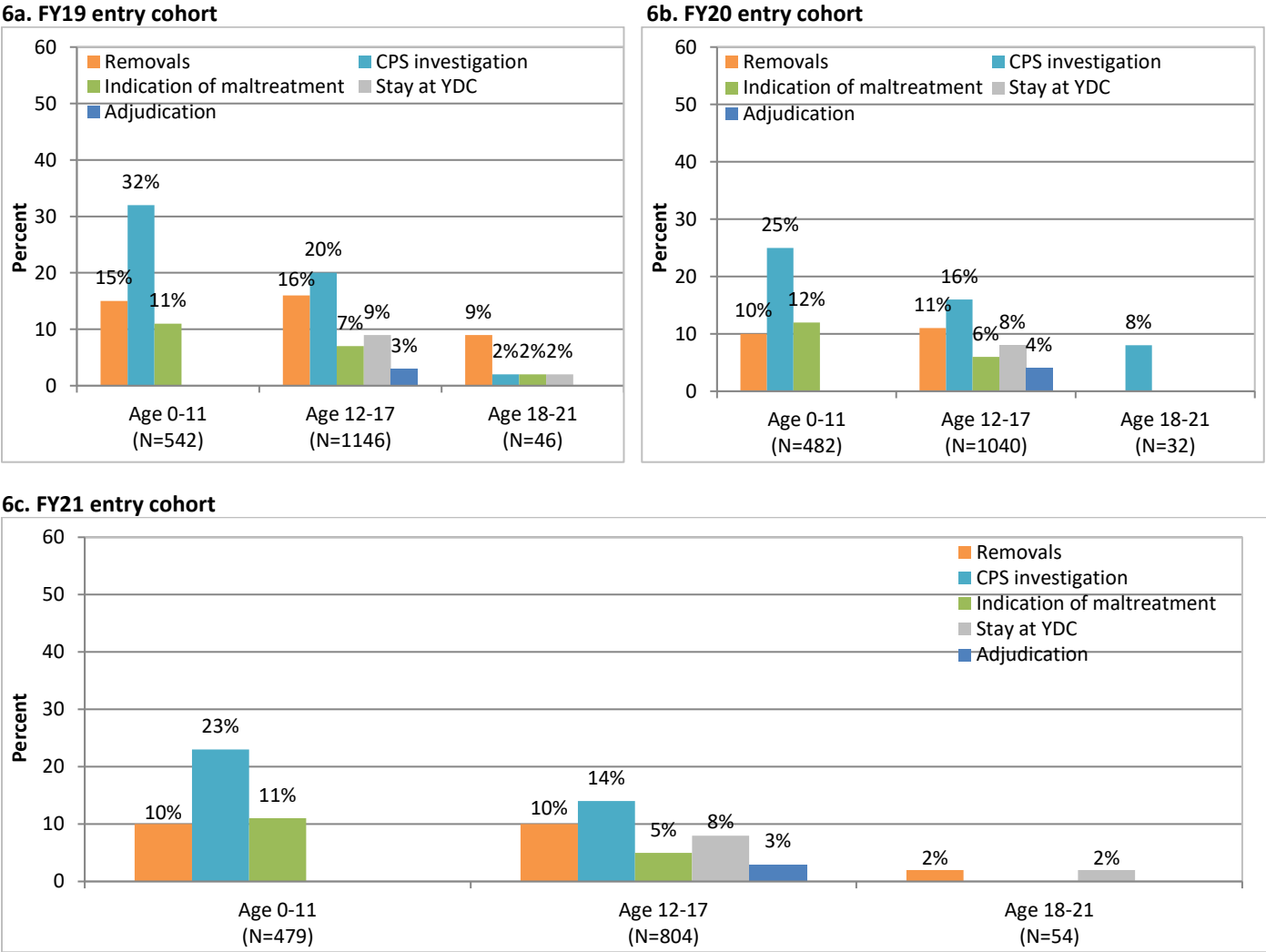
- Twelve-month follow-up period begins on the service start date.
- 18 children who started visitation while in-home were excluded from the analysis.
- A youth may be counted in more than one outcome category, if a youth experienced multiple outcomes within the 6-month period.
- In-home placements defined in this report include living arrangement of stay with friend, guardian, married parents, relatives, separated couple, single female parent, single male parent, subsidized adoption, and unmarried couple. This is not exclusively child welfare placement.
- Depending on the length of time a youth received a service, a youth may or may not have been receiving the service at the time of experiencing the outcome. Youth may have ended the service any time before or after experiencing a selected outcome.

**Selected 12-month outcomes of children and youth who started a community-based service from IN-HOME, by age group**

Figures 6, 7, and 8 provide data on children and youth who started a RI DCYF community based service from in-home in FY19-FY21 and experienced at least one of the 5 selected outcomes within 12 months of starting a service by age group, race and ethnicity and service type.

- ✓ A trend towards decreases in removal and CPS investigations was observed among children age 0-11 year old across the three fiscal years.
- ✓ Indication of maltreatment among children age 0-11 year old stayed relatively consistent around 11-12%.
- ✓ Among children age 12-17 was a trend toward decreases in removals, CPS investigations, and indication of maltreatment.
- ✓ Stay at YDC among children age 12-17 stayed relatively consistent around 8-9%.

**Figure 6. Selected 12-month outcomes of youth who started a community based service from in-home, by age group.**



NOTES:  
- Same as page 6.



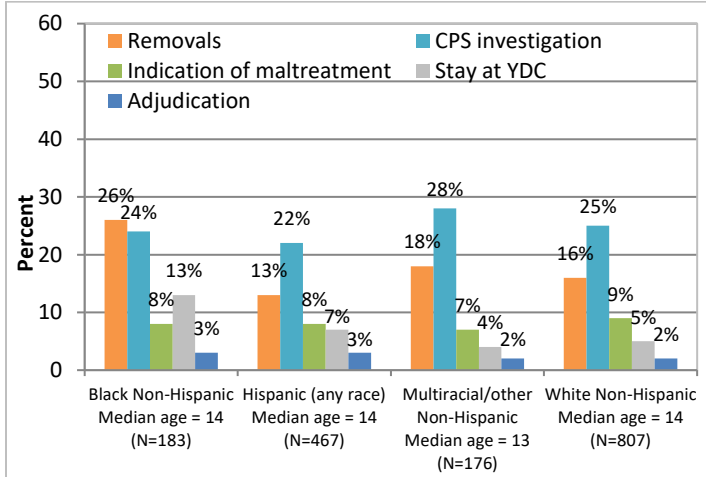
## Selected 12-month outcomes of children and youth who started a community-based service from IN-HOME, by race and ethnicity

Figure 7 shows children and youth who started a RI DCYF funded community-based service from in-home in FY19-FY21 and experienced at least one of the 5 selected outcomes within 12 months of starting a service by race and ethnicity. Across the three fiscal years, all groups experienced a trend in decreases in many of their outcomes. That said, these decreases did not erase the disproportionality observed over the same time period. To test for disproportionality across race and ethnic groups, odds ratio (adjusting for age) was performed to compare the odds of experiencing the selected outcomes (See Table 2). It is important to note that despite the absence of a statistical significance, a practical significance carries meaning and can warrant attention.

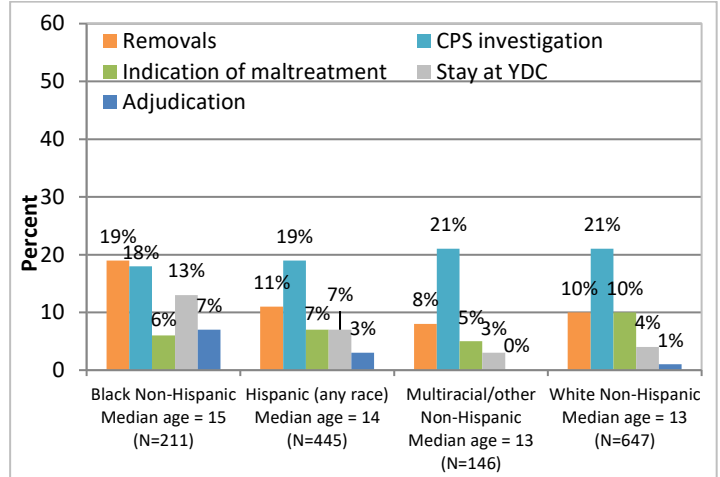
- ✓ Across the three years, all race and ethnicity groups experienced decreases in the percent of removals, CPS investigations
- ✓ In FY21, adjusting for age, Black Non-Hispanic and Hispanic children had significantly higher odds of experiencing 2 of the 5 outcomes compared to White Non-Hispanic children: stay at YDC and adjudication.
- ✓ Across all four fiscal years, Black Non-Hispanic children had significantly higher odds of being placed at the YDC compared to White Non-Hispanic children.
- ✓ Three out of four fiscal years, Black Non-Hispanic children had significantly higher odds of experiencing adjudication compared to White Non-Hispanic children.

**Figure 7. Selected 12-month outcomes of youth who started a community-based service from in-home, by race and ethnicity.**

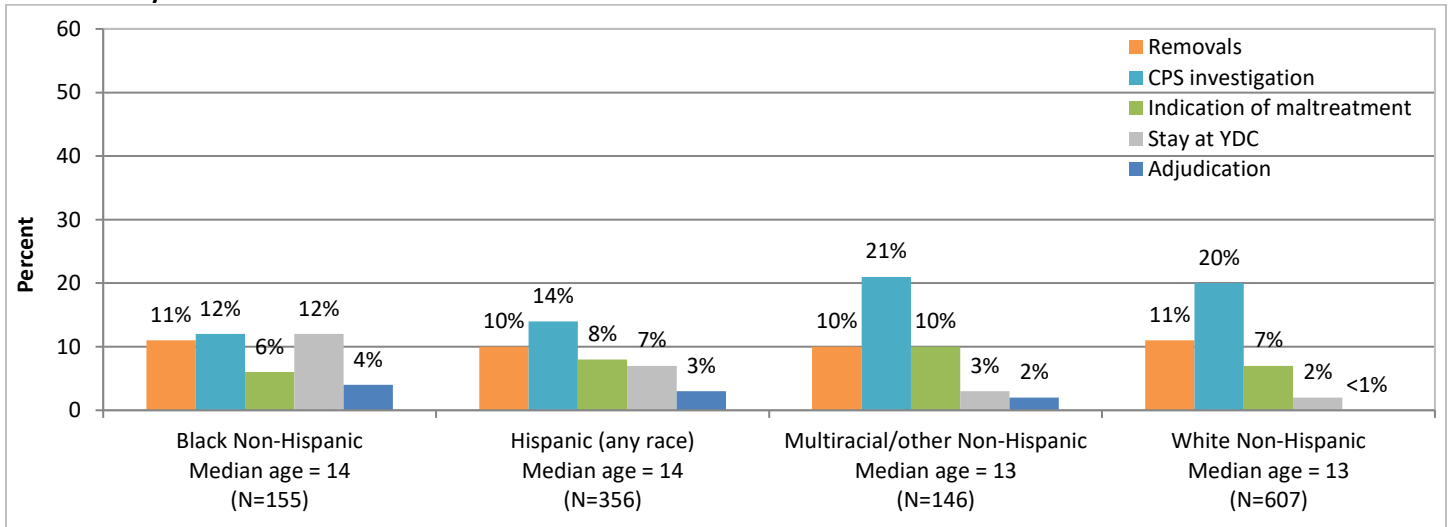
**7a. FY19 entry cohort**



**7b. FY20 entry cohort**



**7c. FY21 entry cohort**



**Table 2. Adjusted odds ratio for experiencing selected 12-month outcomes among children who started a community based service from in-home, by race and ethnicity.**

	FY	Removal	CPS Investigation	Indication of maltreatment	Stay at YDC	Adjudication
		aO.R. (95% C.I.)	aO.R. (95% C.I.)	aO.R. (95% C.I.)	aO.R. (95% C.I.)	aO.R. (95% C.I.)
<b>Black Non-Hispanic</b> compared to White Non-Hispanic	FY18			2.3 (1.3-4.2)	3.8 (2.2-6.7)	7.0 (3.1-16.1)
	FY19	1.9 (1.3-2.7)			2.7 (1.5-4.7)	
	FY20	2.2 (1.4-3.4)			3.2 (1.8-5.7)	3.8 (1.6-9.0)
	FY21				5.3 (2.5-11.1)	6.5 (1.6-26.7)
<b>Hispanic</b> compared to White Non-Hispanic	FY18		0.6 (0.5-0.9)		2.2 (1.4-3.6)	2.8 (1.3-6.3)
	FY19					
	FY20					
	FY21				3.2 (1.6-6.4)	6.5 (1.8-23.1)
<b>Multiracial/other Non-Hispanic</b> compared to White Non-Hispanic	FY18					
	FY19					
	FY20					
	FY21					

aO.R. = adjusted odds ratio (controlled for age).

\*adjusted odds ratio shown only if the result is statistically significant (p<.05).

NOTES:

- Same as page 6.

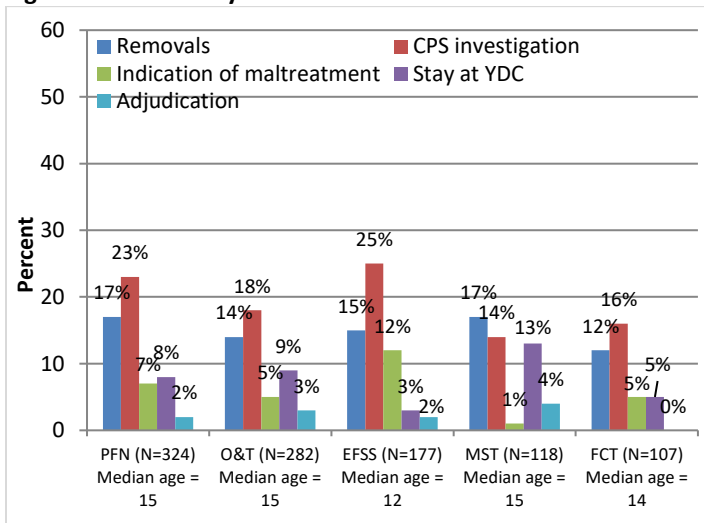
## Selected 12-month outcomes of children and youth who started a community-based service from IN-HOME, by service type

Figure 8 provides data on children and youth who started a DCYF funded community-based service from in-home in FY19-FY21 and experienced at least one of the 5 selected outcomes within 12 months of starting a service by service type. This data can be used to monitor selected outcomes over time for each community based program; it is **not** to be viewed as a comparison across programs due to differences in populations served by the respective services (i.e. differences in age groups, family and presenting concerns, severity of presenting concerns, etc.)

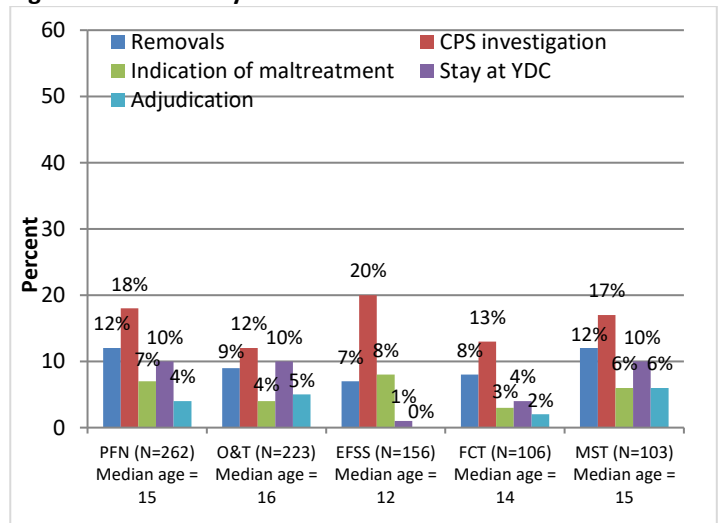
- ✓ Improved outcomes were observed across many programs across outcomes.
- ✓ Removals decreased across the three fiscal years for PFN, Outreach and Tracking, EFSS, MST and FCT

**Figure 8. Selected 12-month outcomes of youth who started a community-based service from in-home, by most frequently used service types. (see appendix for all services)**

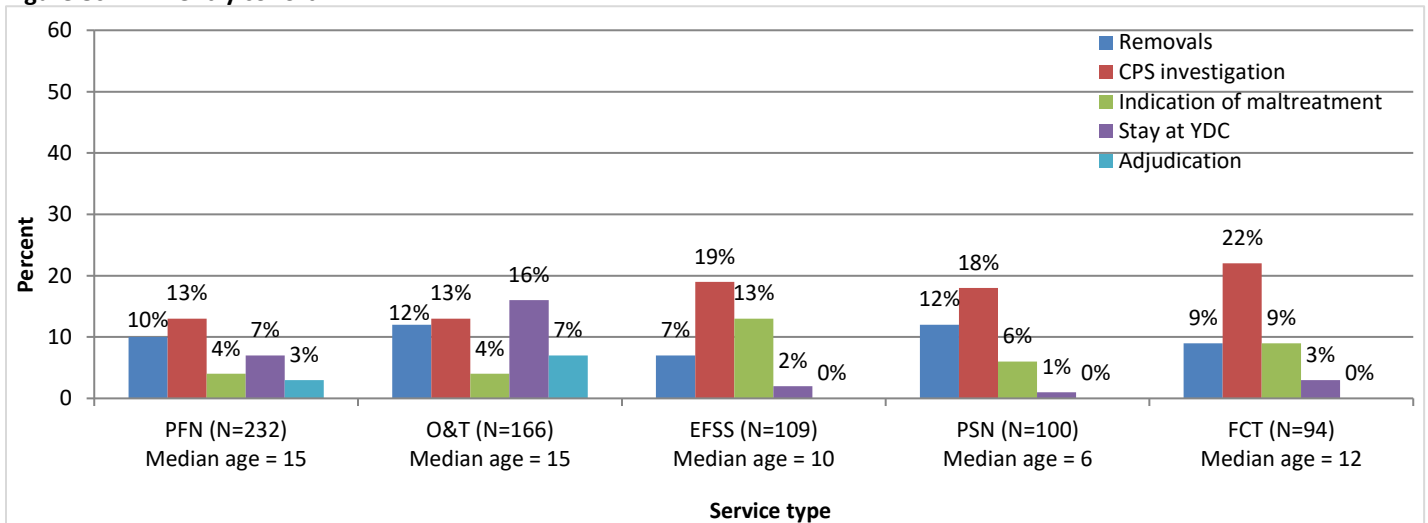
**Figure 8a. FY19 entry cohort**



**Figure 8b. FY20 entry cohort**



**Figure 8c. FY21 entry cohort**



NOTES:  
- Same as page 6.

## Appendix

**Table 1. Number and percent of youth and caregivers who started at least one community based service (both in-home and out-of-home) through RI DCYF in FY20, by service type and age. (N=2456)**

Service type	Age 0-11		Age 12-17		Age 18-21		Caregiver (18+)		Total	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children Mentoring (CSEC Mentor)	0	0%	25	2%	*	1%	0	0%	26	1%
Counseling – Mental Health	*	<1%	*	<1%	*	1%	49	74%	55	2%
Counseling – Sexual Abuse	0	0%	0	0%	*	1%	7	11%	8	<1%
Counseling – Substance Abuse	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	8	12%	8	<1%
Enhanced Family Support Services (EFSS)	122	11%	77	7%	9	8%	0	0%	208	8%
Family Centered Treatment (FCT)	50	4%	72	6%	*	1%	0	0%	123	5%
Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	*	<1%	83	7%	*	1%	0	0%	88	4%
Family Stabilization Program (FSP)	61	5%	56	5%	*	3%	0	0%	121	5%
Family Preservation (FP)	46	4%	10	1%	0	0%	0	0%	56	2%
Family Preservation – DD	28	2%	*	<1%	0	0%	0	0%	29	1%
Homebuilders	17	1%	*	<1%	0	0%	0	0%	21	1%
Multi-systemic Therapy (MST)	8	1%	74	7%	0	0%	0	0%	83	3%
MST for Problem Sexual Behavior (MST-PSB)	5	<1%	18	2%	*	1%	0	0%	24	1%
Outreach and Tracking	11	1%	170	15%	18	16%	0	0%	199	8%
Preserving Families Network (PFN)	52	5%	210	19%	16	14%	0	0%	278	11%
Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL)	15	1%	49	4%	*	1%	0	0%	65	3%
Parent Support Network (PSN)	146	13%	44	4%	*	2%	0	0%	192	8%
Parent Aide/Education	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	*	3%	*	<1%
Parent & Family Empowering Program	*	<1%	*	<1%	0	0%	0	0%	*	<1%
Project Connect	78	7%	8	1%	*	1%	0	0%	87	4%
Respite	18	2%	9	1%	*	2%	0	0%	29	1%
Supporting Adoptive and Foster Families Everywhere (SAFFE)	19	2%	6	1%	0	0%	0	0%	25	1%
Supporting Teens and Adults At-Risk (STAAR)	*	<1%	21	2%	*	2%	0	0%	25	1%
SafeCare	8	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	8	<1%
Trauma Systems Therapy (TST) Community Based	58	5%	36	3%	*	3%	0	0%	98	4%
Trauma Treatment, Evaluation, Assessment, and Management (TTEAM)	34	3%	22	2%	0	0%	0	0%	56	2%
Teen Assertive Community Treatment (Teen ACT)	0	0%	31	3%	*	3%	0	0%	35	1%
Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)	60	5%	*	<1%	0	0%	0	0%	62	3%
Visitation	308	27%	27	2%	*	1%	0	0%	336	14%
Youth Advocate Program	*	<1%	59	5%	44	38%	0	0%	105	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1155</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>1120</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2456</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

NOTES:

- TST community based indicates service started in-home. The youth may have continued the service in-home or out-of-home.

\*means cell size less than 5

## Appendix

**Table 2. Selected 12-month outcomes of youth who started a community based service from in-home in FY20, by service type, age and selected outcomes. (N=1337)**

Service type	Median age (years)	Total number of children	Removal from home		CPS investigation		Indication of maltreatment		Stay at YDC		Adjudication	
			N	% (row)	N	% (row)	N	% (row)	N	% (row)	N	% (row)
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) Mentoring	15.5	10	2	20%	1	10%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Counseling – Mental Health	15	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Enhanced Family Support Services (EFSS)	10	109	8	7%	21	19%	14	13%	2	2%	0	0%
Family Centered Treatment (FCT)	12	94	8	9%	21	22%	8	9%	3	3%	0	0%
Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	15	78	13	17%	15	19%	4	5%	7	9%	4	5%
Family Stabilization Program (FSP)	12	83	9	11%	15	18%	8	10%	0	0%	0	0%
Family Preservation (FP)	3.5	34	6	18%	12	35%	10	29%	0	0%	0	0%
Family Preservation – DD	6	5	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Homebuilders	4	20	4	20%	7	35%	5	25%	1	5%	1	5%
Multi-systemic Therapy (MST)	15	69	4	6%	8	12%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
MST for Problem Sexual Behavior (MST-PSB)	13	19	2	11%	2	11%	1	5%	1	5%	0	0%
Outreach and Tracking	15	166	20	12%	22	13%	7	4%	26	16%	12	7%
Preserving Families Network (PFN)	15	232	23	10%	29	13%	9	4%	17	7%	7	3%
Parenting with Love and Limits (PLL)	13	26	3	12%	6	23%	2	8%	0	0%	0	0%
Parent Support Network (PSN)	6	100	12	12%	18	18%	6	6%	1	1%	0	0%
Parent & Family Empowering Program	14	3	0	0%	1	33%	1	33%	0	0%	0	0%
Project Connect	2.5	42	6	14%	9	21%	6	14%	0	0%	0	0%
Respite	12.5	18	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Supporting Adoptive and Foster Families Everywhere (SAFFE)	10.5	10	0	0%	3	30%	1	10%	0	0%	0	0%
Supporting Teens and Adults At-Risk (STAAR)	15	17	1	6%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SafeCare	0	3	1	33%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Trauma Systems Therapy (TST) Community Based	11	53	2	4%	10	19%	5	9%	0	0%	0	0%
Trauma Treatment, Evaluation, Assessment, and Management (TTEAM)	11	38	2	5%	5	13%	1	3%	0	0%	0	0%
Teen Assertive Community Treatment (Teen ACT)	15	32	3	9%	4	13%	0	0%	2	6%	0	0%
Positive Parenting Program (Triple P)	6	40	4	10%	11	28%	4	10%	0	0%	0	0%
Youth Advocate Program	17	35	0	0%	1	3%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1337</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2%</b>

**NOTES:**

- Excluded visitation service. TST community based indicates service started in-home. The youth may have continued the service in-home or out-of-home.
- Twelve-month follow-up period begins on the service start date.
- 18 children who started visitation while in-home were excluded from the analysis
- A youth may be counted in more than one outcome category, if a youth experienced multiple outcomes within the 6-month period.
- Depending on the length of time a youth received a service, a youth may or may not have been receiving the service at the time of experiencing the outcome. Youth may have ended the service any time before or after experiencing a selected outcome.
- In-home placements defined in this report include living arrangement of stay with friend, guardian, married parents, relatives, separated couple, single female parent, single male parent, subsidized adoption, and unmarried couple. This is not exclusively child welfare placement.