House Bill 1414 (2020) Response and Evaluation Report for Case Management of Children in Foster Care



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Introduction

In 2020, the Missouri General Assembly and the Governor enacted **House Bill 1414** into law. This law requires the establishment of a Response and Evaluation (R&E) Team to review and evaluate foster care case management in Missouri with the goal of implementing objective metrics to measure the quality of services for children in foster care. The Children's Division, in conjunction with the Response and Evaluation Team, is required to develop and implement a standard report as outlined in Section 210.112 RSMo. and 13 CSR 35-35.100. The report is intended to share and analyze the data from processes outlined in the statute and the regulation and to report lessons learned from that data. The regulation requires all metrics and performance measures be designed to take into consideration the following factors:

- That caseloads of Foster Care Case Management Case Managers are capped; and
- That Foster Care Case Management Contracted Agencies may return cases to the Children's Division for case management due to catastrophic costs or a court order.

Implementation of HB1414 was broken into three phases. The metrics outlined in the chart below are directly from regulation 13 CSR 35-35.100. The Response and Evaluation Team determined which metrics from this regulation would be included in each phase and to utilize existing federal benchmarks and definitions, when available and appropriate. When those did not exist, the Response and Evaluation Team determined how to define those measures. The regulation directs the Response and Evaluation Team to continuously evaluate the most appropriate way to assess outcomes in child welfare.

Phase 1 (October 2022)	Phase 2 (October 2023)	Phase 3 (October 2024)
1. Worker/Child visits (Sa)	1. Residential (W)	1. Sentinel Events (Sa) and Timely Reporting of Sentinel Events (Sv)
2. Reports of Child Abuse/Neglect in Foster Care (Sa)	n 2. Case Managers/Sups trauma trained/informed (W)	2. Education (W)
3. Parent/Child Visits (W)	3. Timely Achievement of child's court approved permanency plan (P)	3. Stability of Placements (P)
4. Healthy Child/Youth Exams (W)	4. Effective ratio of supervisors to supervision of Case Managers (Sv)	4. Provision of services to meet the needs of older youth (P)
5. Worker/Parent Visits (P)	5. Cases returned to CD for catastrophic costs/court order (Sv)	 Timely development and implementation of a Social Service Plan to address the reasons why the child is in care (P) and timely development and implementation of primary and concurrent permanency plan (P)
6. Re-Entries into Foster Care (P)		
7. Number of Caseworker Changes (Sv)		

HB1414 Metric Reporting Timeline

Safety Domain (Sa), Well-Being Domain (W), Permanency Domain (P), Service Domain (Sv)

Any other metrics and outcome goals that may be required by law or that Children's Division may decide are appropriate can be added.

Additional information regarding the origins, purpose, and implementation of HB1414, including historical information contained in previous reports, can be found on the <u>HB1414 Page</u>.

Evaluation Tool and Metrics

Foster Care Case Management Dashboard

The Foster Care Case Management Dashboard (FCCMD), available to all case management agencies, will display Missouri's data each month by circuit, case management provider, and county. The data and metrics will apply to both the Children's Division and its contracted case management agencies. Each agency's leadership and quality teams, along with the Children's Division's contracted case management oversight team, will review the data and create improvement plans as indicated.

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)

In order to comply with the requirements of case evaluation, the Response and Evaluation Team made the determination to utilize the existing Child and Family Services Review process and tools in the collection of information for purposes of HB 1414 evaluation of case management. The CFSR is a federally required process for evaluating child welfare systems nationwide. The Children's Bureau conducts the CFSRs, which are periodic reviews of state child welfare systems, to achieve three goals:

- Ensure conformity with federal child welfare requirements
- Determine what is actually happening to children and families as they are engaged in child welfare services
- Assist states in helping children and families achieve positive outcomes

The CFSR case review includes children in foster care under the age of eighteen, throughout the state, and includes cases managed by Children's Division and Foster Care Case Management (FCCM) agencies. Cases are randomly chosen quarterly following federally approved procedures. The number of foster care cases reviewed each quarter was negotiated and approved by the federal Child and Family Service Review Measurement and Sampling Committee (MASC). The CFSR case review tool assesses 18 items related to safety, permanency, and child and family wellbeing.

Missouri implemented a review process in April 2018 that embraced the standards of the federal Child and Family Services Review. The initial review system was built into the Children's Division's electronic case management system and mirrored all aspects of the federal onsite review instrument (OSRI). In September 2022, Missouri made the transition from their internal system to the federal online monitoring system (OMS).

The CFSR Online Monitoring System (OMS) is a web-based application consisting of the Onsite Review Instrument (OSRI), the Stakeholder Interview Guide (SIG), review and user

management functions for OMS State Administrators, data indicator visualizations, and data analysis reports and tools. The OMS is used for both Children's Bureau-led CFSRs and State-led CFSRs. States can use the OMS for their own continuous quality improvement (CQI) and training/practice purposes.

The Onsite Review Instrument is the federal review tool used to review both foster care and inhome services cases during the onsite review component of the Child and Family Services Reviews. In completing the instrument, reviewers conduct case file reviews and case-related interviews with children, parents, foster parents, caseworkers, and other professionals involved with the child. The instrument is organized into a Face Sheet and three sections. On the Face Sheet, reviewers document general information about a case, such as the type of case. The three sections focus on the outcome domains that form the basis of the Child and Family Services Reviews: safety, permanency, and child and family well-being. For each outcome, reviewers collect information on items related to that outcome.

In addition to data from the OMS, the Children's Bureau provides each state with CFSR Data Profiles. These profiles are produced by the Children's Bureau twice annually, typically in February and August. The profiles contain data relevant to this report. Data for the profiles is pulled from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS) and the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS).

AFCARS was established to provide data to assist in policy development and program management. Data can be used by policymakers at the federal, Tribal, and state levels to assess and identify trends related to how many children are in foster care, reasons why they enter, how they exit, and to develop strategies to prevent unnecessary placement into foster care.

The data enables the Children's Bureau to administer the federal title IV-E foster care and adoption assistance programs more effectively. The Children's Bureau and Administration for Children and Families (ACF) use these data sets for several purposes, including:

- Responding to Congressional requests for current data on children in foster care or those who have been adopted;
- Responding to questions and requests from other Federal departments and agencies, including the General Accounting Office (GAO), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General (OIG), national advocacy organizations, States, Tribes, and other interested organizations;
- Developing short and long-term budget projections;
- Developing trend analyses and short and long-term planning;
- Targeting areas for greater or potential technical assistance efforts, for discretionary service grants, research and evaluation, and regulatory change; and
- Determining and assessing outcomes for children and families.

The National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System (NCANDS) is a voluntary data collection system that gathers information from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico about reports of child abuse and neglect. NCANDS was established in response to the Child

Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) of 1988. The data are used to examine trends in child abuse and neglect across the country, and key findings are published in <u>Child Welfare</u> <u>Outcomes Reports</u> to Congress and annual <u>Child Maltreatment reports</u>.

Foster Care Case Management Agency Codes (FCCM)

Due to character limits across many data entry and reporting points, each contract held by an FCCM agency is assigned an abbreviated code. For any data that is sorted by agency, these codes will represent the agency which holds the contract. It should be noted that Missouri Alliance for Children and Families (MACF) holds multiple contracts throughout the state.

- 6AW: Missouri Alliance for Children and Families (MACF); Specialized Care Contract
- 6ZA: MO Alliance Permanency Program (MACF)
- 6ZB: Children's Permanency Partnership
- 6ZC: St. Louis Partners
- 6ZO: Crittenton
- 6ZM: Springfield Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZL: Southwest Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZJ: Central Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZK: South Central Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZR: Kansas City Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZS: Southeast Children's Coalition (MACF)
- 6ZV: KVC Missouri (Previously named Great Circle and changed to KVC in 4/2023)

Standardized Stakeholder Feedback Tool

Regulation 13 CSR 13 35-35.100 requires the use of a standardized stakeholder feedback tool annually. Missouri designed the feedback tool in the form of a survey. The purpose of the survey is to collect data from stakeholders pertaining to the quantity, quality, and effectiveness of case management services provided by the Division and its Foster Care Case Management (FCCM) Agencies. Surveys are sent to the following groups:

- Youth in Alternative Care (12+)
- Foster Parents & Resource Parents
- Adoptive Parents
- Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) of Children in Care
- Juvenile Officers
- Judges of the Juvenile and/or Family Court

As of March 2024, the Children's Division and FCCM agencies have adopted an electronic survey platform to send and receive survey information. The surveys include rating scale questions and open-ended questions.

Surveys were emailed to stakeholders in March 2024 using email addresses from the electronic case management system (FACES) used by CD and FCCM. Additionally, CD and FCCM staff HB 1414 (2020) Response and Evaluation Report for Case Management of Children in Foster Care July 2024

were provided a survey link to share with any stakeholder which may not have had an email address in FACES. Four hundred fifty-eight (458) surveys were completed by stakeholders. Survey results listed as "not displayed" indicates that the participant left the survey before the page was displayed.

All survey responses were sent to FCCM Oversight, FCCM Quality Assurance, Children's Division Circuit Managers, and Children's Division Regional Field Operations Specialists for local continuous quality improvement conversations.

Standardized Stakeholder Survey Responses (Reporting Period: April 2024)

Respondents were given the following instructions:

Using the rating scale below, answer which question best shows how you feel. If you had experience with more than one agency, please complete a separate survey for each agency for which you are addressing.

1 =Strongly Disagree 2 =Disagree 3 =Agree 4 =Strongly Agree

Adoptive Parent Survey Responses

Ninety-one (91) survey responses were received from Adoptive Parents. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. Four of the 91 surveys were unable to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree
1. Prior to adoption, my family	understood the establish	ed permanency plan.	
Answer	Count	P	ercentage
1	6	6.	59%
2	5	5.	49%
3	18	19	9.78%
4	58	63	3.74%

2. The case manager clearly communicated the adoption process and timeline of court procedures.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	6	6.59%
2	5	5.49%
3	18	19.78%
4	58	63.74%

3. My family understands the adoption plan and staffing process.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	8	8.79%
2	8	8.79%
3	19	20.88%
4	52	57.14%

4. The adoption subsidy contract was created with our feedback and our child(ren) future needs in mind.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	11	12.09
2	9	9.89
3	24	26.37
4	43	47.25

5. Overall, I am satisfied with the services provided during the adoption process.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	9	9.89%
2	9	9.89%
3	24	26.37%
4	45	49.45%

Biological Parent Survey Responses

Thirty-three (33) survey responses were received from Biological Parents. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. Two of the 33 survey results were unable to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree
1. I know how to contact my ag	ency worker.		
Answer	Count		Percentage
1	1		3.03%
2	2		6.06%
3	5		15.15%
4	23		69.70%

2. I am satisfied with the amount of contact I have with the case manager(s).			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	5	15.15%	
2	4	12.12%	
3	7	21.21%	
4	15	45.45%	

3. I am satisfied with the quality of contact I have with the case manager(s).		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	6	18.18%
2	5	15.15%
3	4	12.12%
4	16	48.48%

4. My case manager responds to my needs timely.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	5	15.15%
2	6	18.18%
3	5	15.15%
4	15	45.45%

5. I have at least monthly visitation with my child(ren).		
Answer Count Percentage		
1	8	24.24%
2	0	0.00%

3	1	3.03%
4	22	66.67%

6. I have a voice in developing case planning goals and decisions for my family.			
Answer	Count Percentage		
1	7	21.21%	
2	3	9.09%	
3	8	24.24%	
4	13	39.39%	

7. I have been able to invite my friends and family supports to have a voice in developing case planning goals and decisions for my case.

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	10	30.30%
2	4	12.12%
3	4	12.12%
4	13	39.39%

8. I am aware of services and activities in my community for myself and my family.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	6	18.18%
2	4	12.12%
3	5	15.15%
4	16	48.48%

9. The case manager(s) working with my family treats me with respect and values my opinion.			
Answer	Count Percentage		
1	5	15.15%	
2	2	6.06%	
3	9	27.27%	
4	15	45.45%	

10. The Family Support Team respects my values, beliefs, and traditions.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	8	24.24%
2	1	3.03%
3	6	18.18%
4	16	48.48%

11. I have someone, other than my case manager, who I can talk with if I need support or help.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	6	18.18%	
2	1	3.03%	
3	5	15.15%	
4	19	57.58%	

12. Agency involvement has made a positive impact in my family.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	8	24.24%	
2	5	15.15%	
3	3	9.09%	
4	15	45.45%	

Resource Parent Survey Responses

Two hundred and forty-five (245) survey responses were received from Resource Parents. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. Six of the 245 survey results were unable to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree
1. I am aware of how to contac	t the case manager for da	ytime and/or after-hour em	nergencies.
Answer	Count	Perc	entage
1	16	6.53	%
2	29	11.8	4%
3	63	25.7	1%
4	131	53.4	7%

2. I have clear, open communication with my case manager.				
Answer	Count	Count Percentage		
1	31	12.65%		
2	32	13.06%		
3	56	22.86%		
4	120	48.98%		

3. The case manager(s) provided adequate information on the child(ren) placed in my home (i.e. physical/mental health, behaviors, etc.).

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	38	15.51%
2	31	12.65%
3	67	27.35%
4	103	42.04%

4. The case manager(s) working with my child(ren) in my home treats me with respect and values my opinions.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	24	9.80%	
2	34	13.88%	
3	55	22.45%	
4	126	51.43%	

5. The case manager(s) working with the child(ren) in my home is respectful of the child's cultural background and specific needs.

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	13	5.31%
2	26	10.61%
3	68	27.76%
4	132	53.88%

6. The case manager working with the child(ren) in my home assists in accessing resources and referrals needed to meet the child's needs.

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	33	13.47%
2	42	17.14%
3	54	22.04%
4	110	44.90%

7. I have a voice in the case planning for the child(ren) in my home.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	49	20.00%
2	42	17.14%
3	55	22.45%
4	93	37.96%

8. The case manager(s) visits the child(ren) in my home at least once per month.			
Answer	Count Percentage		
1	18	7.35%	
2	13	5.31%	
3	58	23.67%	
4	150	61.22%	

9. Home visits and meetings that I am to attend are scheduled with consideration for my family's schedule.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	28	11.43%
2	35	14.29%
3	64	26.12%
4	112	45.71%

10. I am informed of court hearings timely.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	24	9.80%
2	32	13.06%
3	64	26.12%
4	119	48.57%

11. I have the opportunity to provide information in court hearings.			
Answer	Count Percentage		
1	27	11.02%	
2	33	13.47%	
3	63	25.71%	
4	116	47.35%	

12. Overall, I feel supported by agency staff in doing my job.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	42	17.14%
2	37	15.10%
3	68	27.76%
4	92	37.55%

13. I would recommend fostering to other people in the community.			
Answer	Count Percentage		
1	40	16.33%	
2	43	17.55%	
3	66	26.94%	
4	90	36.73%	

Older Youth (12+) Survey Responses

Forty-two (42) survey responses were received from Older Youth. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. Five of the 42 survey results were unable to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree
1. I have a voice in case planning	ıg.		
Answer	Count]	Percentage
1	5]	11.90%
2	4	ç	9.52%
3	13		30.95%
4	15		35.71%

2. In Family Support Team meetings, I am able to share what is important to me.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	6	14.29%
2	3	7.14%
3	11	26.19%
4	17	40.48%

3. I understand my case plan.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	4	9.52%
2	7	16.67%
3	9	21.43%
4	17	40.48%

4. I know my goals for the future.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	3	7.14%
2	2	4.76%
3	6	14.29%
4	26	61.90%

5. My case manager supports me in the achievement of my goals.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	4	9.52%
2	2	4.76%
3	11	26.19%
4	20	47.62%

6. I am informed of the date and time of court hearings.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	7	16.67%
2	6	14.29%
3	4	9.52%
4	20	47.62%

7. I am heard in court hearings.		
Answer Count Percentage		
1	7	16.67%
2	4	9.52%

3	10	23.81%
4	16	38.10%

8. My case manager prepares me to speak for myself in court.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	10	23.81%	
2	5	11.90%	
3	12	28.57%	
4	10	23.81%	

9. I am satisfied with the amount of contact I have with my case manager.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	4	9.52%	
2	7	16.67%	
3	6	14.29%	
4	20	47.62%	

10. I know how to contact my case manager.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	4	9.52%
2	3	7.14%
3	8	19.05%
4	22	52.38%

11. I understand why I have a case manager.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	5	11.90%
2	3	7.14%
3	10	23.81%
4	19	45.24%

12. My case manager talks with me about my concerns.			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	4	9.52%	
2	4	9.52%	
3	10	23.81%	
4	19	45.24%	
No answer	0	0.00%	
Not displayed	5	11.90%	

13. My case manager responds to my needs. For example: accessing resources and providing referrals.		
Answer	Count Percentage	
1	5	11.90%
2	4	9.52%
3	8	19.05%
4	20	47.62%

14. My case manager respects my identity and culture.		
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	2	4.76%
2	3	7.14%
3	10	23.81%
4	22	52.38%

15. I feel safe in my place	ement.	
Answer	Count	Percentage
1	3	7.14%
2	2	4.76%
3	4	9.52%
4	28	66.67%

Juvenile Officer Survey Responses

Thirty-three (33) survey responses were received from Juvenile Officers. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. All survey results were able to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree
1. Are you notified of Family S	upport Team meetings t	wo weeks in advance?	
Answer	Count	Perc	centage
1	5	15.1	5%
2	11	33.3	3%
3	12	36.3	6%
4	5	15.1	5%

2. Are court reports received prior to court? (A description of the facts pertaining to the case, any updates on progress or lack of progress made towards the safety goals, any relevant changes to the family situation, the recommended permanency and concurrent plan for each child, and any recommendations made by the Family Support Team)

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	6	18.18%
2	13	39.39%
3	10	30.30%
4	4	12.12%

3. In general, are the court reports easy to understand?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	4	12.12%	
2	6	18.18%	
3	18	54.55%	
4	5	15.15%	

4. Are court reports and other information given to you helpful in preparing for court?				
Answer	Count	Percentage		
1	4	12.12%		
2	9	27.27%		
3	16	48.48%		
4	4	12.12%		

5. Are case managers familiar with the case at court?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	1	3.03%	
2	12	36.36%	
3	18	54.55%	
4	2	6.06%	

6. Are case managers prepared and knowledgeable while testifying?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	1	3.03%	
2	13	39.39%	
3	16	48.48%	
4	3	9.09%	

7. In general, are case managers available within a reasonable time frame?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	3	9.09%	
2	12	36.36%	
3	13	39.39%	
4	5	15.15%	

8. Are case managers supportive of their clients?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	3	9.09%	
2	7	21.21%	
3	19	57.58%	
4	4	12.12%	

9. Do you feel you are able to provide input during Family Support Team meetings?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	0	0.00%	
2	1	3.03%	
3	19	57.58%	
4	13	39.39%	

10. Do you feel attorneys representing case workers help to move the case to permanency quicker?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	9	27.27%	
2	14	42.42%	
3	9	27.27%	
4	1	3.03%	

11. Do you feel you are able to provide input during other interactions with the team?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	0	0.00%	
2	1	3.03%	
3	22	66.67%	
4	10	30.30	

Judge Survey Responses

Fourteen (14) survey responses were received from Judges. All surveys displayed below were answered in their entirety. All survey results were able to be displayed.

1 = Strongly Disagree	2 = Disagree	3 = Agree	4 = Strongly Agree		
1. Has your circuit achieved at	1. Has your circuit achieved at least 95% timeliness for required hearings in accordance with Court Operating				
Rule 23.01?					
Answer	Count	Perce	entage		
1	1	7.14%	6		
2	0	0.00%	6		
3	1	7.17%	6		
4	10	71.43	%		
I have no information	2	14.29	%		

2. Is transportation offered/available to families to assist them in attending court hearings?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	1	7.14%	
2	5	35.71%	
3	0	0.00%	
4	1	7.14%	
I have no information	7	50.00%	

3. Are foster parents, pre-adoptive p during court proceedings?	parents, relative caregive	rs, and families given an opportunity to be heard	
Answer Count Percentage			
1	1	7.14%	
2	0	0.00%	
3	3	21.43%	
4	8	57.14%	
I have no information	2	14.29%	

4. Are families given an opportunity to provide input during treatment planning?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	0	0.00%	
2	0	0.00%	
3	0	0.00%	
4	9	64.29%	
I have no information	5	35.71%	

5. Are affidavits, reports, and other paperwork submitted by the case manager to the Court purposeful, specific, factual, and pertinent to the work being done with the family being served?				
Answer Count Percentage				
1	1	7.14%		
2	1	7.14%		
3	3	21.43%		
4	8	57.14%		
I have no information	1	7.14%		

6. With regard to parents requesting legal representation in accordance with SCR 115.03, is the process to obtain legal representation explained by Court staff in a timely, developmentally appropriate manner, utilizing clear and understandable language?

Answer	Count	Percentage
1	1	7.14%
2	0	0.00%
3	1	7.14%
4	11	78.57%
I have no information	1	7.14%

7. In general, are all parties present and prepared for court hearings?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	1	7.14%	
2	0	0.00%	
3	5	35.71%	
4	7	50.00%	
I have no information	1	7.14%	

8. In general, are case managers knowledgeable about the case and helpful during court proceedings?			
Answer	Count	Percentage	
1	1	7.14%	
2	0	0.00%	
3	5	35.71%	
4	7	50.00%	
I have no information	1	7.14%	

FCCM Contract Expansion

It should be noted that during this reporting period, a significant number of cases were transferred to FCCM agencies from CD as a result of an FCCM contract expansion. The expansion occurred in the Kansas City (6ZR, 6ZO), Central (6ZJ), Southeast (6ZS), and St. Louis (6ZA, 6ZB, and 6ZC) regions. Many cases had multiple caseworkers and agencies involved in the case activities needing to be completed.

Phase I Reporting (Reporting Period: January 1 - March 31, 2024)

A. Safety Domain: Caseworker Monthly Visits with Children in Foster Care

Children's Division policy states that the caseworker should meet face-to-face with the child a minimum of one time per month with the majority of the visits being in the placement to monitor and assess the safety of the child.



Chart 1 depicts the percentage of children in foster care seen by a worker during the calendar month.

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBDM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 1: According to the Foster Care Case Management Dashboard, Worker with Child Visits has not been met statewide by most agencies during the period of January through March 2024. Three agencies have met the benchmark all three months: 6AW, 6ZK, and 6ZM. This is an increase by one agency from the previous quarter.

Chart 2 depicts circuits that met or exceeded the benchmark of 95% of children in foster care being seen each month by their caseworker.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBDM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 2: According to the Foster Care Case Management Dashboard, 18 out of 46 circuits met or exceeded the benchmark each month during the period of January through March of 2024. This was an increase by one circuit from the previous quarter.

Chart 3 depicts the number of circuits in relation to their percentage of children seen monthly. The data includes children managed by both Children's Division and Foster Care Case Management agencies.

Chart 3: Percentage of Worker Child Visits Grouped by Circuit							
	Federal Measure is 95%						
	A B C D E						
	59.0%- 70.9%	71.0%- 80.9%	81.0%-90.9%	91.0%-94.9%	95% or greater		
January	1	4	11	7	23		
February	1	3	10	9	23		
March	1	2	9	9	25		

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBDM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 3: At least half of the 46 circuits met or exceeded the goal of 95% for January through March of 2024.

Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) Data: Item 14 of the CFSR evaluates frequency and quality of caseworker visits with children in foster care. The purpose of these visits is to ensure the child's safety, permanency, and well-being and to promote achievement of case goals. Chart 4 depicts the twenty (20) cases reviewed this reporting period.



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 14 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 4: Sixteen (16) cases were rated Strength in this area. Common themes included visits conducted at a frequency of at least monthly. In some cases, visits occurred as frequently as weekly or additional contact between the worker and the child occurred by phone. The visits were of sufficient quality because they included face-to-face contact with the child, alone, and in the placement setting. The visits were at least 30 minutes to one hour in duration and included observation of the living environment and the child's interactions with other household members. Conversations focused on the child's needs, services, and case planning. Of the 20 cases reviewed, four were rated Area Needing Improvement (ANI) in the frequency and quality of the caseworker visits with a child. Factors contributing to a rating of ANI included visits occurring less frequently than monthly, the worker not visiting with the child alone and not observing the child's environment or interactions with other household members.

Data Analysis Summary: According to the dashboard, as a state, the measure for worker with child visits is not being met. Results from the quarterly CFSR case review reflect that the measure was not met for frequency or quality.

B. Safety Domain: Victimization in Foster Care

Chart 5 depicts victimization in foster care which is defined as a child in foster care whom the state has determined to be the victim of abuse or neglect by at least one preponderance of evidence finding. A lower value is desirable. It should be noted that this metric measures a rolling calendar year so a report counted in one month will be reflected in subsequent months until the twelve-month period has been reached for that report.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBAM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 5: The Foster Care Case Management Dashboard data indicates that, overall, this measure is being met statewide. Eleven agencies met the goal all three months, two met the goal two of three months, and one agency did not meet the goal any month in the quarter. A 0.00 represents no victimization occurred.

Child and Family Services Review Data: Chart 6 compares the rate of victimization for children in foster care in Missouri to the rate of victimization for children in foster care nationwide.

Risk Standardized Performance (RSP) is used to assess state performance on the CFSR statewide data indicators. Risk-Standardized Performance (RSP) is derived from a multi-level statistical model and takes into account the number of children the state served, the age distribution of these children, and, for one data indicator, the state's entry rate. It uses risk adjustment to minimize differences in outcomes due to factors state has little control over and provides a fairer comparison of state performance against the national performance. For more information about how RSP is calculated, please visit <u>What is National Performance and How is it Calculated</u>. The reporting period for this report corresponds to the federal fiscal year, October through September. The goal of 9.07 or less is based on the National Performance of 9.07. A lower value is desirable.



^{*}Source: MO CFSR 4 Data Profile, August 2023 (Released: January 2024)

Analysis of Chart 6: According to the CFSR Data Profile, Missouri is meeting this measure. Missouri's most recent federal fiscal year rate of victimization is 6.71, which is below the national performance of 9.07.

Data Analysis Summary: According to both the Foster Care Case Management Dashboard and the CFSR Data Profile, Missouri is meeting the goal of victimization rates for children in foster care.

C. Well-Being Domain: Parent Visits with Child

Children's Division policy is to facilitate at least one visit a month for each child for parents that are eligible to receive visits. In some cases, visits are prohibited due to a court order. Neither CD nor FCCM agencies are required to facilitate visits where a court has ordered no visitation to occur.



Chart 7 depicts the percentage of parent child visits completed by each agency.

Chart 7 Analysis: Foster Care Case Management Dashboard on Parent/Child Visits data reflects that no agency is meeting the benchmark of 60% for this measure.

Child and Family Services Review Data: Item 8 of the CFSR evaluates frequency and quality of each applicable parent's visits with their child to ensure the child's safety, permanency, and wellbeing and to promote achievement of case goals. To be applicable for review of this item, each parent must be either a parent from whom the child was removed or who had a pre-existing relationship with the child, and with whom the agency is working toward reunification. Frequency of the visits, or how often they occur, is assessed based on the circumstances of the case, including the child's age and imminence of reunification.

Factors considered in assessing the quality of the child's visits with their parents include, but are not limited to, the duration of visits, whether they took place in a comfortable atmosphere that would encourage interaction, and whether unsupervised visits were allowed to take place in the parent's home.

Chart 8 depicts the percentage of cases that had an overall rating of Strength or Area Needing Improvement (ANI) regarding the child's visits with the mother and father. In order to receive an overall rating of Strength, all parents identified as applicable for review of this item must have received a Strength rating for both the frequency and quality of their visits with their children.

^{*}Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBEM0, February-April 2024



This chart reflects a statewide view that includes both Children's Division and any Foster Care Case Management agencies who had cases reviewed.

Analysis of Chart 8: Of 17 cases applicable for rating of this item, eight received an overall rating of Strength, indicating that both the frequency and quality were sufficient. Nine cases were rated ANI. All nine received that rating, at least in part, due to inadequate frequency of visits with one or both parents.

Chart 9 depicts the percentage of cases in which the children's visits with their mother and father were of sufficient frequency or quality to promote continuity in the child's relationships with them. The number of cases applicable for rating frequency and quality can differ. For example, if the child never visited the parent, then the rating would reflect that the visits were not of sufficient frequency and the quality of the visits would not be rated, as there were no visits during which the quality could have been demonstrated. Each bar indicates how many cases were applicable for rating (n) and the percentage of sufficient frequency and quality.

^{*}Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 8 Data, January-March 2024



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 8 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 9: Fifteen cases were applicable for review regarding the frequency of the child's visits with the mother. Of those, six were rated Strength and nine were rated ANI. Ten cases were applicable for review of the frequency of the child's visits with the father. Of those, five were rated Strength and five were rated ANI. Factors contributing to a rating of Strength included visits of 2-3 times per week, unrestricted visits supervised by the placement provider, and unrestricted access to other sources of contact such as phone and video calls. In other scenarios, visits increased throughout the case as safety concerns were alleviated in an effort to work toward Trial Home Visits. Some factors contributing to ratings of ANI for the frequency of visits included lack of exploration of increased visits even though all safety concerns had been alleviated and withholding visits due to a parent not completing services unrelated to safety concerns.

Eleven cases were applicable for review regarding the quality of the caseworker's visits with the mother. Of those, eight were rated Strength and three were rated ANI. Seven cases were applicable for review of the quality of the caseworker's visits with the father. Of those, five were rated Strength and two were rated ANI. Notable factors contributing to ANI ratings regarding the quality of visits included workers not engaging parents (including incarcerated parents) in visits and workers not making concerted efforts to address any barriers the parent(s) might have had in attending visits.

Data Analysis Summary: Statewide, the goal of 60% of parents and children visiting at least once monthly was not met. No circuit or agency is meeting the goal for this measure. Parent-child visits may be underrepresented in the data. Information related to parent-child visitation has been difficult to identify and extract from FACES due to irregularities in the location of documentation within the system.

Barriers to accurate data collections include:

1. There are many options to select a person's relationship with a child and if not entered correctly the visit is not counted in the data.

2. Several steps need to be taken in specific screens in FACES in order for a parent-child visit to be captured in the data. It is believed that some staff are entering these visits elsewhere in FACES (e.g., as contacts) causing those parent-child visits to be uncounted.

Technical Assistance has been provided from the Quality Assurance teams to Children's Division and Foster Care Case Management staff about how and where to enter the parent-child visits within FACES. This assistance will be ongoing.

Results from the quarterly CFSR case review reflect that the goal of 60% for parent and child visits was not met for mothers or fathers. Visits with fathers was higher in frequency but slightly lower in quality.

D. Well-Being Domain: Medical Exam Completion (HCY)

Every child is required to have a Healthy Child and Youth Exam (HCY) within 30 days of entering foster care. The HCY exam includes basic vision, hearing and dental screenings. This data could include children who were in care for less than 30 days. The data is collected two months after the month being reported on to ensure each child's HCY information is accounted for, regardless of whether the child entered care at the beginning of a month or the end of a month, while still making sure that the agency has 30 days to have the HCY completed. For example, if a child enters care on October 31st, the HCY exam would be considered timely if completed on or before November 30th. Thus, October HCY data will be pulled on the sixth business day in December, which allows for HCY information to be collected on every child who entered care in the entire month of October.

Chart 10 depicts the percentage of children who entered care during the reporting period and received a HCY exam within 30 days of the entry. If an agency does not have an entry for the month, no data will show. It should be noted that 6AW does not get new entries and are therefore not included in this measure.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBFM0, March-May 2024

Analysis of Chart 10: Foster Care Case Management Dashboard data shows that the state has not met the benchmark of 98% for timely completion of HCY exams after children enter foster care. One agency met the benchmark all three months of the reporting period and three agencies met the benchmark two out of the three months during the reporting period.

Child and Family Services Review Data: Item 17 of the CFSR assesses whether the agency conducted accurate initial and on-going assessments of, and addressed, the physical health needs of the child, including dental needs.

Chart 11 depicts the percentage of cases that had an overall rating of Strength or Area Needing Improvement (ANI). This chart reflects a statewide view that includes both Children's Division and any FCCM agencies who had cases reviewed.



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 17 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 11: Of the 20 cases reviewed, ten cases were rated Strength, indicating that all physical health needs, including dental, were assessed and addressed.

Ten were rated ANI. Eight of the 10 received the ANI rating, at least in part, due to the agency not assessing the child's dental health needs. In one case, the physical health needs were also not appropriately assessed. In one case, the dental needs were assessed but the physical health needs were not addressed.

Item 18 of the CFSR assesses whether the agency addressed the mental/behavioral health needs of the child. Foster care cases are only applicable for an assessment of this item if the child had mental/behavioral health needs, including substance abuse issues.

Chart 12 depicts the percentage of cases that had an overall rating of Strength or Area Needing Improvement (ANI). This chart reflects a statewide view that includes both Children's Division and any FCCM agencies who had cases reviewed.



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 18 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 12: Of 12 cases applicable for review, nine cases were rated Strength, indicating that the child's mental/behavioral health needs were accurately assessed, and the appropriate services were provided to address identified needs. Three cases were rated ANI. Factors contributing to rating of ANI included not assessing behavioral or mental health needs or providing services for identified needs.

Data Analysis Summary: The state is not meeting the benchmark of 98% for timely completion of HCY exams after children enter foster care.

In January 2024, 43 circuits had foster care entries and would therefore have required HCY exams. Thirteen of the 43 circuits met the measure for January 2024.

In February 2024, 43 circuits had foster care entries and would therefore have required HCY exams. Fourteen of the 43 circuits met the measure for February 2024.

In March 2024, 43 circuits had foster care entries and would therefore have required HCY exams. Twelve of the 43 circuits met the measure for March 2024.

The quarterly CFSR case review results reflect there is improvement needed in the assessment of physical and mental health needs and the provision of services to meet those needs.

E. Permanency Domain: Worker Visits with Parent

Children's Division policy requires at least one worker visit with each parent each month. Chart 13 depicts the percentage of parents of children in foster care that were visited by each agency. The goal of 50% was established by the R&E Team.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBDM0, February-April2024

Analysis of Chart 13: Foster Care Case Management Dashboard Data indicates no agency met the benchmark of 50% in all three months, January 2024 through March 2024.

Child and Family Services Review Data: Item 15 of the CFSR assesses whether the frequency and quality of the worker's visits with each of the parents was sufficient to ensure the safety, permanency, and well-being of the child and promote achievement of case goals.

Chart 14 depicts the percentage of cases where the caseworker's visits with the mother and father were of sufficient frequency or quality. The number of cases applicable for rating of each of these measures can differ. For example, if the agency did not conduct a visit with the parent, the rating would reflect the visits were not of sufficient frequency and the quality would not be rated, as no visits occurred to measure the quality. Each bar indicates how many cases were applicable for rating (n).



^{*}Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 15 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 14: Sixteen cases were applicable for review regarding the frequency of the caseworker's visits with the mother. Of those, five were rated Strength and eleven were rated ANI. Thirteen were applicable for review of the frequency of the caseworker's visits with the father. Of those, five were rated Strength and eight were rated ANI. Common themes in cases rated a Strength in frequency included visits conducted at least monthly. In most cases, additional contact occurred regularly by phone or text message. Cases receiving a rating of ANI for the frequency of visits included those occurring less than monthly with few or inconsistent attempts to engage parents in monthly visits. Lack of visits or other forms of contact with incarcerated parents also remains an area for improvement.

Twelve cases were applicable for review regarding the quality of the caseworker's visits with the mother. Of those, six were rated Strength and six were rated ANI. Nine cases were applicable for review of the quality of the caseworker's visits with the father. Of those, five were rated Strength and four were rated ANI. Common themes in cases rated Strength in quality included face-to-face contact in a setting that allowed for open and honest communication. The visits were at least 30 minutes to one hour in duration and conversations focused on needs, services, and progress toward case goals. Common factors contributing to ANI for quality of visits included not meeting with parents in their place of residency and a lack of conversations centered around case planning, service delivery, and goal achievement.

Data Analysis Summary: Statewide, the goal of 50% for worker with parent visits is not being met. For the month of January 2024, four of the 46 circuits met the goal. For the month of February 2024, five of the 46 circuits met the goal. For the month of March 2024, seven of the 46 circuits met the goal. Circuits 24 and 26 met the goal all three months. Quarterly CFSR case review results indicate workers visited with mothers monthly in 31% of the cases and with fathers monthly in 38% of the cases reviewed. The quality of worker visits with mothers (50%) and fathers (56%) was also well below the federal goal of 95%.

F. Permanency Domain: Reentry into Foster Care

Chart 15 depicts the percentage of children who exited foster care to permanency (excluding adoption) and then reentered care within the following 12 months. The chart reflects children who reentered care in January, February, and March 2024. A lower percentage is desirable.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBCM0, February-April2024

Analysis of Chart 15: The goal was met by seven of the thirteen agencies in all three months of January through March. This measures foster children who exited care to reunification, guardianship or placement with a fit and willing relative during a 12-month period and then reentered care within 12 months of their exit date. The reentry is counted for the agency that was assigned the case when it closed in the system. A 0.00% represents that there were no reentries. MO Alliance (6AW) is a specialized case management contract serving children and youth with very complex needs which could contribute to a higher frequency of reentries.

Chart 16 depicts the number of circuits in relation to their percentage of children who reentered foster care. The data includes children managed by both Children's Division and Foster Care Case Management agencies. For this measure, a lower percentage is desirable.

(Chart 16: Percentage of Reentry Into Foster Care Grouped by Circuit				
Goal is 5.6% or Less					
	А	A B C D			
	15.1%-44.4%	10.1%-15%	5.7%-10%	0%-5.6%	
January	0	1	14	31	
February	0	1	11	34	
March	0	1	10	35	

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBCM0, February-April2024

Analysis of Chart 16: More than two-thirds of the 46 circuits met the goal of 5.6% or less reentries in January, February, and March.

Child and Family Services Review Data: Risk Standardized Performance (RSP) is used to assess state performance on the CFSR statewide data indicators. Risk-Standardized Performance (RSP) is derived from a multi-level statistical model and takes into account the number of children the state served, the age distribution of these children, and, for one data indicator, the state's entry rate. It uses risk adjustment to minimize differences in outcomes due to factors over which the state has little control and provides a fairer comparison of state performance against the national performance. For more information about how the RSP is calculated, please visit <u>What is</u> National Performance and How is it Calculated. A lower rate is desirable. This data does not differentiate between Children's Division and FCCM agencies.



Chart 17 compares the rate of reentry into foster care for children in Missouri to the rate of reentry into foster care for children in the nation.

*Source: MO CFSR 4 Data Profile, August 2023 (Released: February 2024)

Analysis of Chart 17: Missouri's performance continues to exceed national performance.

Data Analysis Summary: The target goal was met by more than two-thirds of the agencies and circuits in all three months for reentry into foster care. CFSR data shows Missouri continues to exceed national performance.

G. Service Domain: Average Number of Workers Per Child in Care (Less Than 12 Months and 12+ Months)

This measure observes the average number of workers assigned to children who have been in foster care less than 12 months and those in care 12 or more months. There is no federal benchmark for the number of case workers per child therefore the performance benchmark will be determined by the Response and Evaluation Team now that data has been collected for approximately one year. It should be noted that the average number of workers includes all workers assigned to a case and is not separated between Children's Division and FCCM. The measure is pulled by who is currently case managing the case. For example, if the case had two CD workers and two 6AW workers and the case is currently case managed by 6AW, then the average would be reflected under 6AW.

Chart 18 depicts the average number of workers for each child who was in care less than 12 months. A lower number is desirable for this measure.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBBM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 18: Children who were in care for less than 12 months experienced anywhere from 1.45 to 3.00 workers.

Chart 19 depicts the average number of workers for each child who was in care 12 months. A lower number is desirable for this measure.



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBBM0, February-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 19: Children who were in care 12 months or longer experienced anywhere from 3.36 to 6.77 workers.

Child and Family Services Review Data: There is no CFSR case review information applicable to this measure. Research does indicate that with each worker change children can experience delays in reaching permanency. The Response and Evaluation Team included this measure to help understand the functioning of the child welfare system in Missouri because continued changes can influence how children and families are served.

Data Analysis Summary: Statewide, children experienced three or less caseworkers when they were in foster care 12 months or less. Children experienced 6.77 workers or less when they were in care 12 months or longer.

Phase II Reporting (Reporting Period: January 1, 2024 – March 31, 2024)

H. Well-Being Domain: Placement Category/Residential Type

This measure depicts the child's primary placement type in foster care. The Response and Evaluation Team will determine the expected performance benchmarks once enough data is collected to establish a reasonable goal.

Non-Residential Placement Types				
Foster Home	Trial Home Visit			
FHO - Foster Home	THV - Trial Home Visit			
FHE - Emergency Foster Home	Other			
FGH - Foster Family Group Home	JHO - Juvenile Court Home			
CFP - Career Foster Parent Home	CTO - Non-licensed court ordered facility			
FHB - Behavioral Foster Home	ILA - Independent Living Arrangement			
FGB – No longer utilized as a placement type.	MMD - Medical Facility			
FGM –No longer utilized as a placement type.	MMH - Mental Health Home			
FHM - Medical Foster Home	MMF - Mental Health Facility			
Relative Home	MMW - Mental Health Medical Waiver			
RHO - Relative Home	DET - Detention			
RHB - Behavioral Relative Home	RFT - Residential Facility Transition Placement			
RHM - Medical Relative Home	RUN - Runaway			
RHU - Unlicensed Relative Home	SCH - School			
KHU - Unlicensed Non-Relative Home	UNK - Unknown			
KHO - Non-Relative/Kinship Home	TLG - Transitional Living Group Home			
KHM - Medical Non-Relative Home	TLP - Transitional Living Placement			
KHB - Behavioral Non-Relative Home	TLS - Transitional Living Scattered Site			
LGS - Legal Guardianship Subsidy	TLA - Transitional Living Advocate			
Adoptive Home	ESP - Emergency shelter placement			
ADF - Adoption by foster parent				
ADR - Adoption by relative				
ADO - Adoption by other				
FAH - Foster Adoptive Home				

Charts 20-22 depict the child's primary placement type. N=the number of children assigned to each agency. The total number of adoption finalizations is not represented in this chart. This number does represent pre-adoptive placements awaiting adoption finalization. Additional youth/children are placed in committed homes who have been recognized by the Family Support Team or court as the permanent resource upon the legal termination of parental rights. Those situations are represented in several placement categories for foster and relative homes. Youth on a Trial Home Visit are counted as its own placement category. Beginning in March 2024, Treatment Foster Care is captured in the Relative and Foster Home categories when a subplacement category of Relative Home or Foster Home is identified. If no sub-placement category is identified, then Treatment Foster Care is captured in residential placement categories.



Chart 20: Placement Categories January 2024

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBGM0 JIRA=5054 08FEB24


Chart 21: Placement Categories February 2024

RELATIVE HOME FOSTER HOME OTHER RESIDENTIAL THV ADOPTIVE HOME

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBGM0 JIRA=5054 08MAR24



Chart 22: Placement Categories March 2024

RELATIVE HOME FOSTER HOME OTHER RESIDENTIAL THV ADOPTIVE HOME

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBGM0 JIRA=5054 08APR24

Analysis of Chart 20-22: All agencies are making efforts to place children in foster care with relatives. 6AW is a specialized contract that serves children with higher behavioral needs who lack stability and frequently move placements.

Charts 23-25 depict the type of residential placement each child is placed in. Additional information about each placement type can be found in the <u>Child Welfare Manual</u>.

Kesidentiai Flacement Types							
FBR – Family Based Residential	RFI – Residential Facility Infant Placement						
RF2 – Residential Level 2 – (Moderate Need)	RFP - Residential Facility Placement						
RF3 – Residential Level 3 (Severe Need)	RFH – Residential Foster Home						
RF4 – Residential Level 4 (Intensive Need)	RST - Residential Sex Trafficking Facility						
PRTF – Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility	RFT - Residential Facility Transition Placement						
RFE – Residential Facility Emergency Placement	RFM - Residential Facility Maternity Placement						
RFA – Residential Treatment Facility							

Residential Placement Types



Chart 23: Residential Placement Categories January 2024



Chart 24: Residential Placement Categories February 2024



Chart 25: Residential Placement Categories March 2024

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBGM0 JIRA=5054 08APR24

Analysis of Charts 23-25: Most children who are receiving residential services are in a Level 4 placement. As defined in the Child Welfare Manual a Level 4 placement is "an extended placement resource for children requiring active, coordinated, and professional intervention in a highly structured and secure environment. Such children will have demonstrated an inability to function in any less restrictive setting. This level is indicated for children who have a significant emotional and/or psychiatric need. These children present a chronic runaway risk and typically HB 1414 (2020) Response and Evaluation Report for Case Management of Children in Foster Care July 2024

present a history of impulsivity, intensify of behavioral problems, significant family issues, selfdestructive behaviors, etc. Residential Treatment agencies should provide reunification services, work with the family, community-based services, schools, etc. as a part of the therapeutic services provided. They present a chronic runaway risk. They also typically present a history of showing rage, including physical aggression".

Child and Family Services Review Data: Item 10 of the CFSR assesses if concerted efforts were made to place the child with relatives. All foster care cases are applicable for rating of this item except for cases in which the child needed specialized care throughout their entire time in foster care, making placement with relatives unsuitable, or situations where the identities of both parents and all relatives are unknown despite documented efforts to identify them. The following chart demonstrates the percentage of cases where sufficient efforts were made to place with relatives. Each bar indicates how many cases were applicable for rating (n).



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 10 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 26: Of 20 cases applicable for rating of this item, 12 cases were rated a Strength. Contributing factors included placement with a relative for the entire period under review and diligent efforts being made to identify and explore both maternal and paternal relatives.

Eight cases were rated ANI. Factors contributing to a rating of ANI included failure to provide diligent efforts to identify maternal or paternal relatives. In one instance, many maternal relatives were explored but the failure to explore paternal relatives resulted in an ANI. In another instance, no relatives were explored even though a maternal aunt had guardianship of two older siblings and this information was readily available in the electronic system.

Data Analysis Summary: When comparing placement types of children in foster care over the past three months, the majority of children are placed in relative placements. Those in residential placements are mostly in a Level 4 placement type. The number of children in residential placements decreased by 31.17% from January to March of 2024. There continues to be

opportunity for improvement in making diligent efforts to identify and explore both maternal and paternal relatives for placement.

I. Well-Being Domain: Case Managers and Supervisors Trauma Trained/Informed

Children's Division and the private Foster Care Case Management agencies do not share a common platform to record and track staff training completion. Great effort has been made to integrate training data however such processes are labor intensive and unreliable. The Office of Administration is implementing a new training tracking system in 2025 which is expected to resolve this issue. It should be noted that all staff are required to complete trauma-informed training within 12 months of their hire date. Staff are being trauma trained despite the difficulty in uniformly tracking and reporting on their completion.

J. Permanency Domain: Timely Achievement of Child's Court Approved Plan

Timely achievement of a child's court-approved plan is considered permanency. This measure looks at timely permanency (through reunification, adoption, guardianship, or living with a relative) for children in foster care. Chart 27 depicts whether permanency is achieved within 12 months of children entering foster care. This number is calculated by dividing the number of children who enter foster care in a 12-month period (denominator) and the number of children in the denominator who are discharged to permanency within 12 months of entering foster care (numerator).



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBHM0 JIRA 5150 February-April 2024

Chart 28 depicts whether permanency is achieved for children who have been in foster care for at least 12 months and not more than 23 months. This number is calculated by dividing the number of children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care continuously between 12 and 23 months (denominator) by the number of children in the





*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBHM0 JIRA 5150 February-April 2024

Chart 29 depicts whether permanency is achieved for children and youth in care for 24 months or more. This number is calculated by dividing the number of children in foster care on the first day of a 12-month period who had been in foster care continuously for 24 months or more (denominator) by the number of children in the denominator who discharged to permanency within 12 months of the first day of the 12-month period (numerator).



*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBHM0 JIRA 5150 February-April 2024

Analysis of Charts 27-29: Only one agency met the measure of timely permanency for those entering care within 12 months. Three agencies met the measure of timely permanency within 12-23 months. Two agencies met the measure of timely permanency for those in care 24 months or more.

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Child and Family Services Review Data: Item 6 of the CFSR assesses whether concerted efforts were made to achieve the case goal. The following chart demonstrates the percentage of cases in which sufficient efforts were made to achieve the case goal in a timely manner. N=the number of cases reviewed for this item.



*Source: Missouri CFSR-Item 10 Data, January-March 2024

Analysis of Chart 30: Of the 20 cases reviewed, seven cases were rated Strength. Timely identification of a case goal, consistent parent engagement, and timely identification of a permanent placement were common factors in those cases.

Thirteen cases were rated ANI for this item. Contributing factors included a lack of timely court hearings and termination of parental rights filings, a lack of increase in parent-child visitation, lack of engagement with parents to provide services to move the case toward permanency, and failure to change the case goal from reunification in a timely manner or to work toward a concurrent goal.

Data Analysis: Timely permanency for those entering care within 12 months is not being met. Three agencies met the measure of timely permanency within 12-23 months. Two agencies met the measure of timely permanency for those in care 24 months or more. The quarterly CFSR case review data also reflects this area needs improvement.

K. Service Domain: Effective Ratio of Supervisors to Supervision of Case Managers

This measures the number of Supervisors to Case Managers for children in foster care. Chart 31 depicts the Supervisor to Case Manager ratio for FCCM agencies from January through March of 2024. The Response and Evaluation Team will determine the benchmark for this measure once enough data is collected to establish a reasonable goal.

	FCCM LS1 Supervisor to Worker Ratio January 2024		FCCM LS1 Supervisor to Worker Ratio February 2024		FCCM LS1 Supervisor to Worker Ratio March 2024
6AW	9:36 25.00%	6AW	10:35 28.57%	6AW	10:36 27.78%
6ZA	11:41 26.83%	6ZA	11:42 26.19%	6ZA	11:45 24.44%
6ZB	8:28 28.57%	6ZB	8:26 30.77%	6ZB	11:27 40.74%
GZC	11:33 33.33%	6ZC	11:32 34.38%	6ZC	11:34 32.35%
6ZJ	6:28 21.43%	6ZJ	6:30 20.00%	6ZJ	6:29 20.69%
GZK	2:7 28.57%	6ZK	2:10 20.00%	6ZK	2:7 28.57%
6ZL	4:14 28.57%	6ZL	4:12 33.33%	6ZL	3:9 33.33%
6ZM	4:18 22.22%	6ZM	4:19 21.05%	6ZM	4-20 20.00%
6ZO	5:32 15.63%	6Z0	5:33 15.15%	6ZO	5:35 14.29%
6ZR	7:35 20.00%	6ZR	7:36 19.44%	6ZR	7:38 18.42%
6ZS	4:19 21.05%	6ZS	4:19 21.05%	6ZS	4:19 21.05%
6ZV	3:12 25.00%	6ZV	3:11 27.27%	6ZV	3:12 25.00%

Chart 31: FCCM Supervisor to Case Manager Ratio

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBIM0 JIRA 5055 February 2024-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 31: FCCM Supervisor to Case Manager ratios range from 2:7 to 11:45, January through March of 2024. Percentages range from 40.47% (11:27) to 14.29% (5:35).

Chart 32 depicts Supervisor to Case Manager ratios for Children's Division by each circuit. The reason it is displayed by circuit instead of total for the agency is due to the concentration of children case managed by Children's Division as compared to individual Foster Care Case Management agencies.

	CD LS1		CD LS1		CD LS1
	Supervisor to Worker		Supervisor to Worker		Supervisor to Worker
	Ratio		Ratio		Ratio
	January 2024		February 2024		March 2024
			Condity 2024		March 2024
CIR 01	1:1 100.00%	CIR 02	4:5 80.00%	CIR 01	1:1 100.00%
CIR 02	4:5 80.00%	CIR 03	1:4 25.00%	CIR 02	3:7 42.86%
CIR 03	1:4 25.00%	CIR 04	2:3 66.67%	CIR 02	1:4 25.00%
CIR 04	2:4 50.00%	CIR 05	3:8 37.50%	CIR 04	2:3 66.67%
CIR 05	3:8 37.50%	CIR 06	1:3 33.33%	CIR 05	3:7 42.86%
CIR 06	1:3 33.33%	CIR 07	3:11 27.27%	CIR 06	1:3 33.33%
CIR 07	3:10 30.00%	CIR 08	1:1 100.00%	CIR 07	4:11 36.36%
CIR 08	1:1 100.00%	CIR 09	2:3 66.67%	CIR 08	1:2 50.00%
CIR 09	1:3 33.33%	CIR 10	4:11 36.36%	CIR 09	2:3 66.67%
CIR 10	4:11 36.36%	CIR 11	2:6 33.33%	CIR 10	4:11 36.36%
CIR 11	2:6 33.33%	CIR 12	2:10 20.00%	CIR 11	2:6 33 33%
CIR 12	3:11 27.27%	CIR 13	5:11 45.45%	CIR 12	2:9 22.22%
CIR 13	5:11 45.45%	CIR 14	1:3 33.33%	CIR 13	5:11 45.45%
CIR 14	1:3 33.33%	CIR 15	1:5 20.00%	CIR 14	1:4 25.00%
CIR 15	1:5 20.00%	CIR 16	7:25 28.00%	CIR 15	1:5 20.00%
CIR 16	7:26 26.92%	CIR 17	4:13 30.77%	CIR 16	7:19 36.84%
CIR 17	4:13 30.77%	CIR 18	1:6 16.67%	CIR 17	4:13 30.77%
CIR 18	1:6 16.67%	CIR 19	1:5 20.00%	CIR 18	1:6 16.67%
CIR 19	2:6 33.33%	CIR 20	4:15 26.67%	CIR 19	1:5 20.00%
CIR 20	4:15 26.67%	CIR 21	6:26 23.08%	CIR 20	4:14 28.57%
CIR 21	6:28 21.43% 4:17 23.53%	CIR 22	4:17 23.53%	CIR 21	6:26 23.08%
CIR 22		CIR 23	4:12 33.33%	CIR 22	4:19 21.05%
CIR 23 CIR 24	4:11 36.36% 4:17 23.53%	CIR 24	4:17 23.53%	CIR 23	4:11 36.36%
CIR 25	5:18 27.78%	CIR 25	3:15 20.00%	CIR 24	4:17 23.53%
CIR 25 CIR 26	3:14 21.43%	CIR 26	3:14 21.43%	CIR 25	3:14 21.43%
	3:11 27.27%	CIR 27	3:10 30.00%	CIR 26	3:14 21.43%
CIR 27 CIR 28	2:7 28.57%	CIR 28	2:8 25.00%	CIR 27	3:10 30.00%
CIR 29	4:17 23.53%	CIR 29	4:17 23.53%	CIR 28	2:7 28.57%
CIR 30	4:12 33.33%	CIR 30	4:12 33.33%	CIR 29	4:16 25.00%
CIR 31	4:22 18.18%	CIR 31	4:22 18.18%	CIR 30	4:12 33.33%
CIR 32	7:22 31.82%	CIR 32	6:22 27.27%	CIR 31	5:22 22.73%
CIR 33	2:6 33.33%	CIR 33	2:6 33.33%	CIR 32	5:20 25.00%
CIR 34	3:7 42.86%	CIR 34	3:7 42.86%	CIR 33	2:6 33.33%
CIR 35	3:14 21.43%	CIR 35	3:14 21.43%	CIR 34	3:6 50.00%
CIR 36	3:15 20.00%	CIR 36	3:13 23.08%	CIR 35	3:13 23.08%
CIR 37	2:6 33.33%	CIR 36	2:8 25.00%	CIR 36	3:12 25.00%
CIR 38	2:8 25.00%		2:7 28.57%	CIR 37	2:8 25.00%
CIR 39	4:12 33.33%	CIR 38		CIR 38	2:6 33.33%
CIR 40	4:13 30.77%	CIR 39	4:11 36.36% 4:13 30.77%	CIR 39	4:14 28.57%
CIR 40	3:6 50.00%	CIR 40	2:6 33.33%	CIR 40	4:13 30.77%
CIR 42	4:12 33.33%	CIR 41		CIR 41	3:7 42.86%
CIR 43	2:5 40.00%	CIR 42	4:11 36.36%	CIR 42	3:13 23.08%
CIR 44	3:9 33.33%	CIR 43	2:5 40.00%	CIR 43	2:6 33.33%
CIR 45	3:8 37.50%	CIR 44	3:9 33.33%	CIR 44	4:10 40.00%
CIR 46	2:6 33.33%	CIR 45	3:8 37.50% 2:6 33.33%	CIR 45	3:8 37.50%
		CIR 46	2-0 33.33%	CIR 46	2:6 33.33%

Chart 32: CD Supervisor to Case Manager Ratio

*Source: DSS\Research Report RS5HBIM0 JIRA 5055 February 2024-April 2024

Analysis of Chart 32: Children's Division Supervisor to Case Manager ratios by Circuit range from 1:1 to 7:26 throughout January-March 2024. Percentages range from 100% (1:1) to 16.67% (1:6). It should be noted that due to not having any case managers for the month of February 2024, Circuit 1 is excluded from the data chart above.

Data Analysis Summary: As a state, Supervisor to Case Manager ratios ranged from 1:1 to 11:45, January-March 2024.

L. Service Domain: Cases Returned to CD for Catastrophic Costs/Court Order

The intent of the measure was to monitor cases returned to Children's Division when FCCM agencies experience catastrophic costs. However, there is no available data as it is no longer the practice for FCCM agencies to return cases due to high cost. The new practice is for Children's Division to take over the placement cost once a threshold of \$100,000.00 is reached within a 12-month timeframe. The case will remain with the FCCM for all other case management

services. The last FCCM case returned to Children's Division for this reason was in August 2022. The practice was ended in October 2022.

Conclusion

House Bill 1414 Implementation continues to be ongoing. Phase I began in October 2022, Phase II began in October 2023 and Phase III was projected for October 2024. There is progress being made in all areas of the work. As the data is collected, analyzed, and discussed, it is the intent of this legislation and work to make systematic recommendations to improve outcomes for children and families.

Beginning in June 2024, Technical Assistance meetings will be occurring throughout all regions of the state. The purpose of these meetings is to collaborate between CD FCCM Oversight, FCCM Quality Assurance, and Children's Division Regional Field Operations Specialists for local continuous quality improvement. The goal of bringing both FCCM and CD partners together is to review data trends, identify areas of needed improvement, set goals for the following quarter, and share best practice efforts to meet goals.

In April of 2024, a Request for Extension was made by the Response and Evaluation Team to the Director of the Department of Social Services for the postponement of a portion of Phase II and all of Phase III until 2025 and 2026, respectively. This request for postponement has been approved. The legal basis for this request is pursuant to 13 CSR 35-35.100(3) (E).

Phase II requires that "All case managers and supervisors successfully complete training in providing trauma-informed and trauma-based services". The training data has proved difficult and unreliable to measure as Children's Division and the private Foster Care Case Management agencies do not share a common platform in which to record and track staff training completion. A new training tracking system is scheduled to be implemented later in 2025 which is expected to resolve this issue.

Phase III requires measurement of multiple metrics which would require modification of the current computer system. All changes to the current computer system have been discontinued in order to concentrate resources on the creation of a new computer system, expected in 2025-2026. The new system is being designed to capture all the required data in Phase III.

The next reporting period is April 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 with the report to be published by October 1, 2024.

For previous reports, please visit our website: https://dss.mo.gov/hb 1414.html