State of the State 2021 Texas Child Protection System Trends

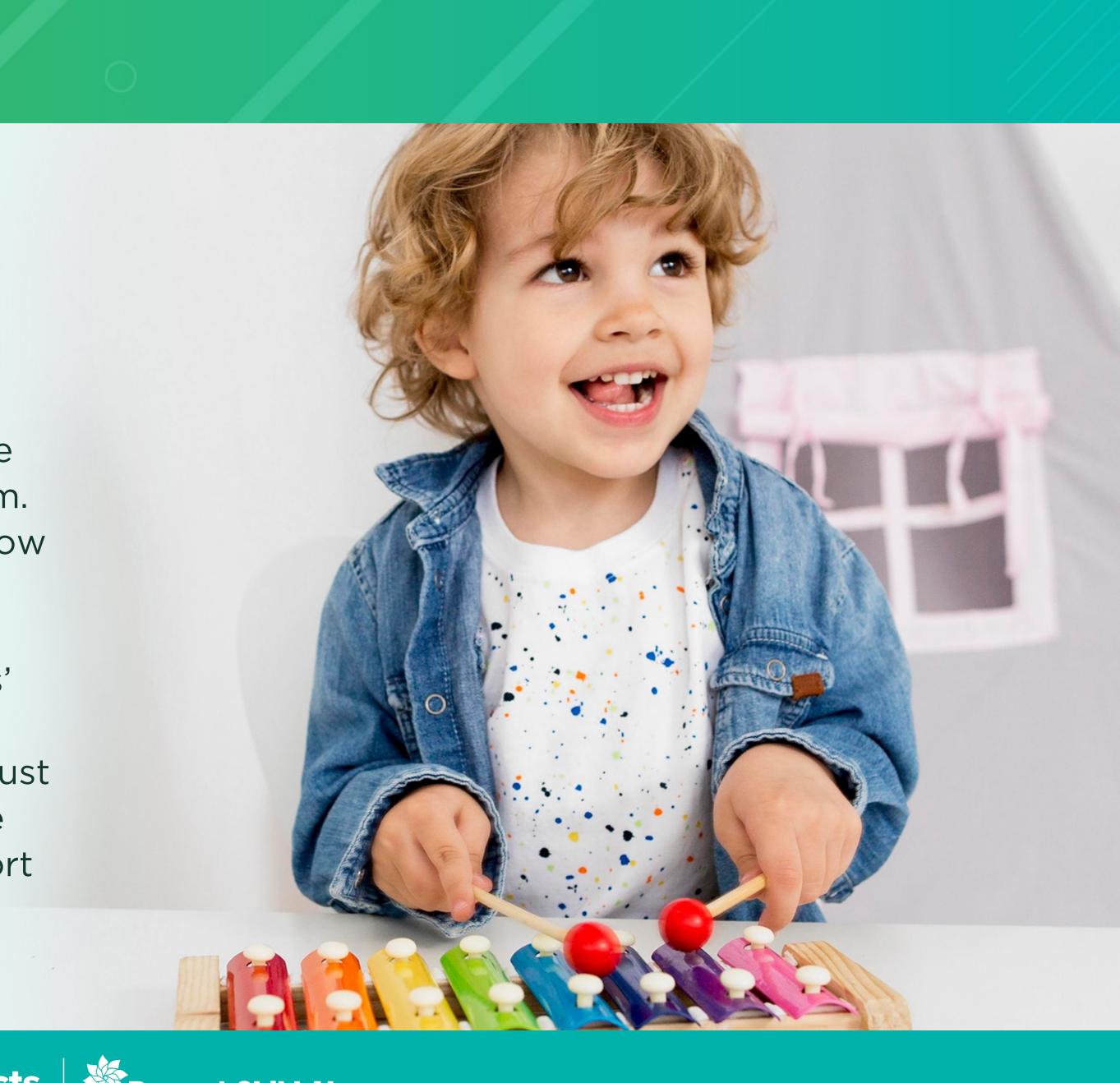


OVERVIEW

Securing the Future of Texas Children

TexProtects' State of the State is our annual presentation on the data and trends shaping the current landscape of our child protection system. It shares child welfare outcomes in Texas and how we compare nationally, as well as the state's progress towards shifting the conversation upstream to focus on prevention. In 2021, Texas' child protection system faced many challenges. The data indicate the urgency with which we must part from the status quo and do more to ensure children and families in Texas receive the support they need to remain together.





TexProtects is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to protecting Texas children from the trauma of abuse and neglect and empowering families to thrive through education, research and advocacy.



Healing and Trauma-Informed Care



Mission and Focus

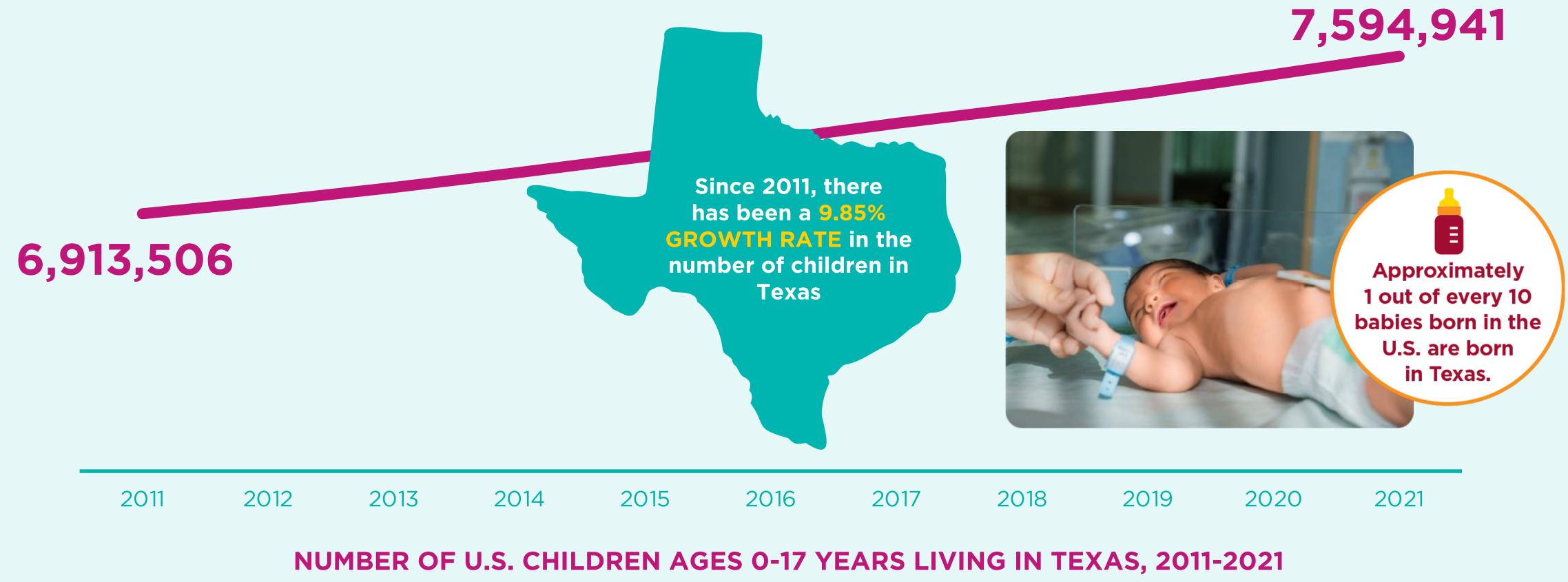
CHILD PROTECTION

CPS System and Workforce

Foster Care

Transition and Support Services for Youth

1 IN EVERY 10 Children in the U.S. Live in Texas



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Texas Child Population



According to the 2021 State of Texas' Babies Report, Texas ranked well in some areas and poorly in others...

9.6% Women received late or no prenatal care

8.5% Infants born at

low birthweight

5.5 Infant deaths per 1,000 live births

17.6% Mothers reported

less than optimal mental health

72.3% **Babies received** recommended vaccines

Source: Zero to Three (2021), State of Babies Yearbook





NATIONAL AVERAGE

4.9%

Infants/toddlers received **IDEA Part C services** 28.9%

READING Daily parent-child interaction

47.6% SINGING

Signaling a need to scale up support services for families

7.8%

Low-income infants and toddlers were uninsured

36.8%

Babies received a developmental screening

5.9%

Families in poverty received TANF benefits

13.6%

Households with babies experienced low food insecurity



18.3 Infant/toddler maltreatment rate 19.4%

Babies were living in crowded housing

NATIONAL AVERAGE

1.1% **Babies experienced** housing instability

55.7%

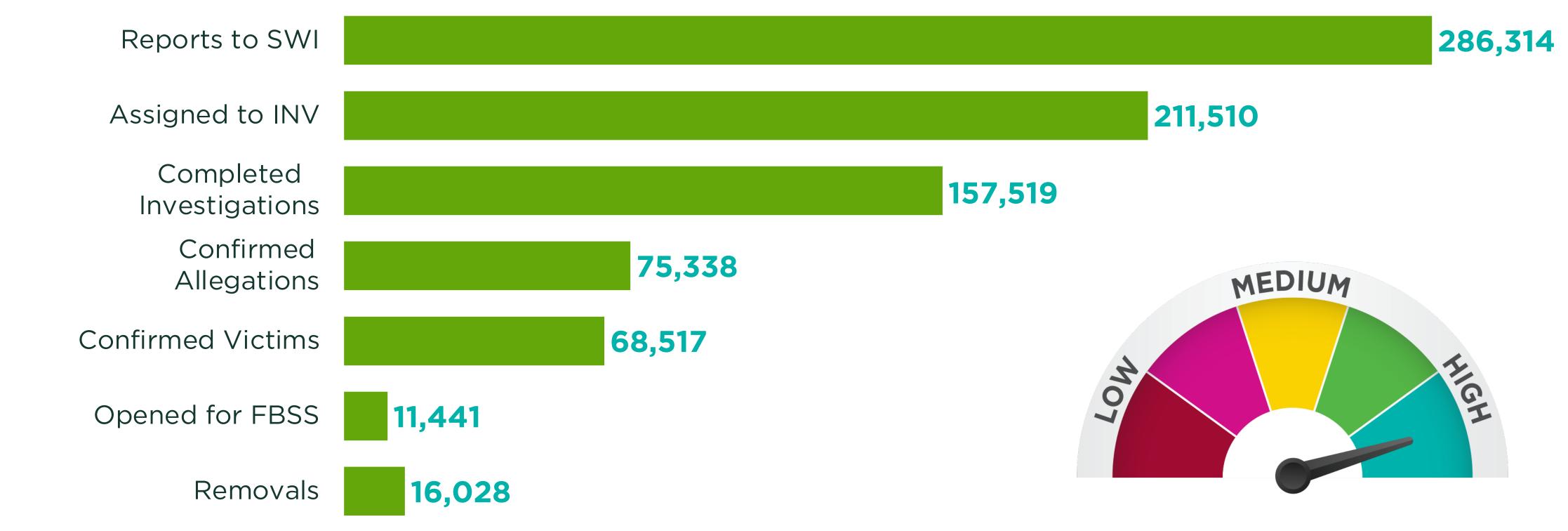
Infants/toddlers with mothers in the labor force

Overview of the Child Protection System in Texas



The current child protection system is primarily reactive, **TAKING ACTION AFTER a report has been made**

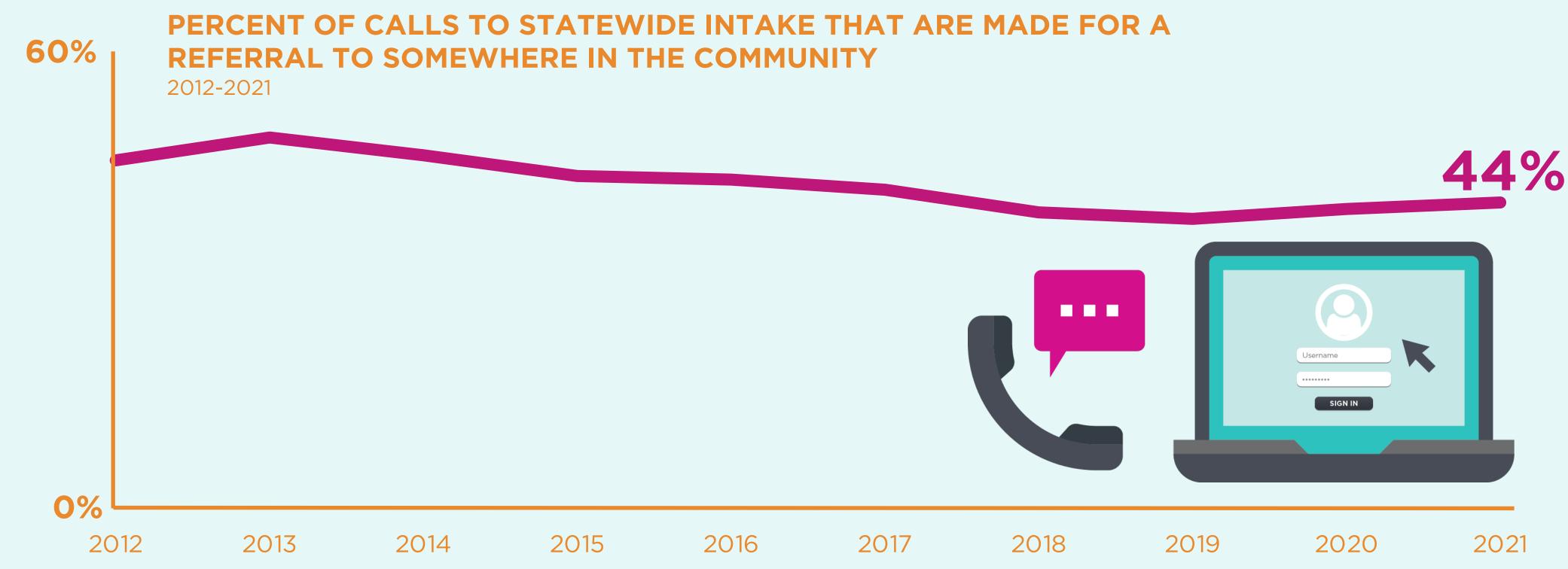
NUMBER OF STATEWIDE INTAKE REPORTS, ASSIGNMENTS, AND OUTCOMES IN 2021



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPI Intakes: Priority, Screening, and Assignment; CPI Completed Abuse/Neglect Investigations: Activity; CPI Completed Investigations: Alleged and Confirmed Types of Abuse; Completed Child Protective Investigations: Referred to Family Preservation: Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals



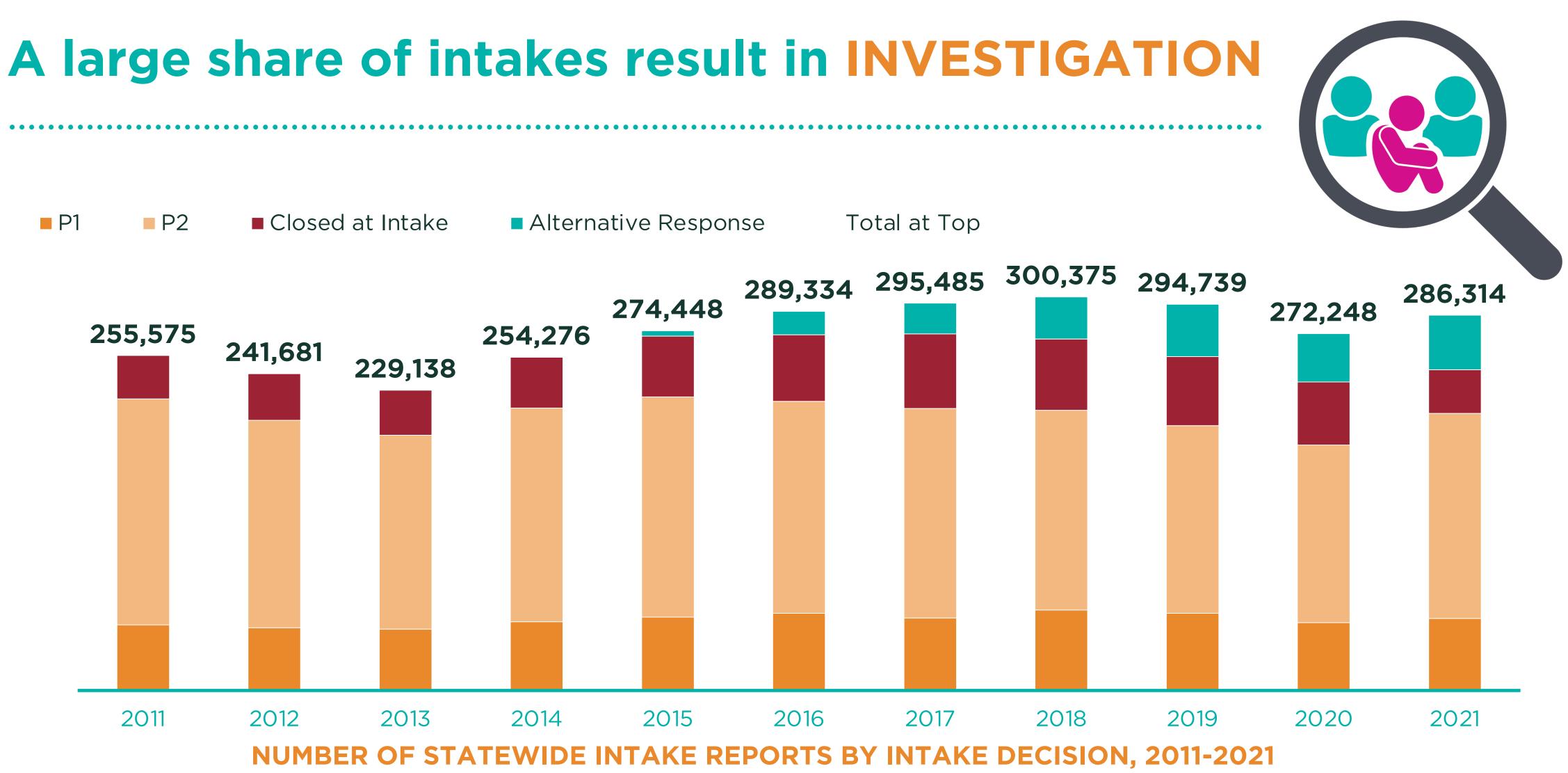
More than 4 IN 10 statewide intake reports seek other support



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Statewide Intake: Type of Contact and Method of Receipt







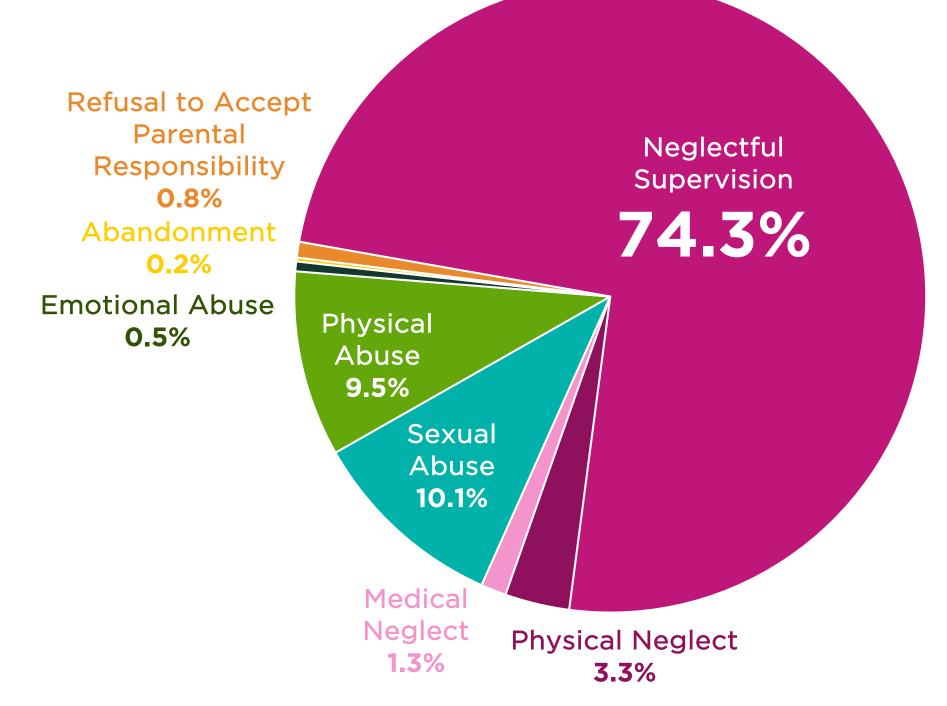
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPI Intakes: Priority, Screening, and Assignment



Most allegations confirmed by CPS are NEGLECT and primarily occur between 0 AND 5 YEARS

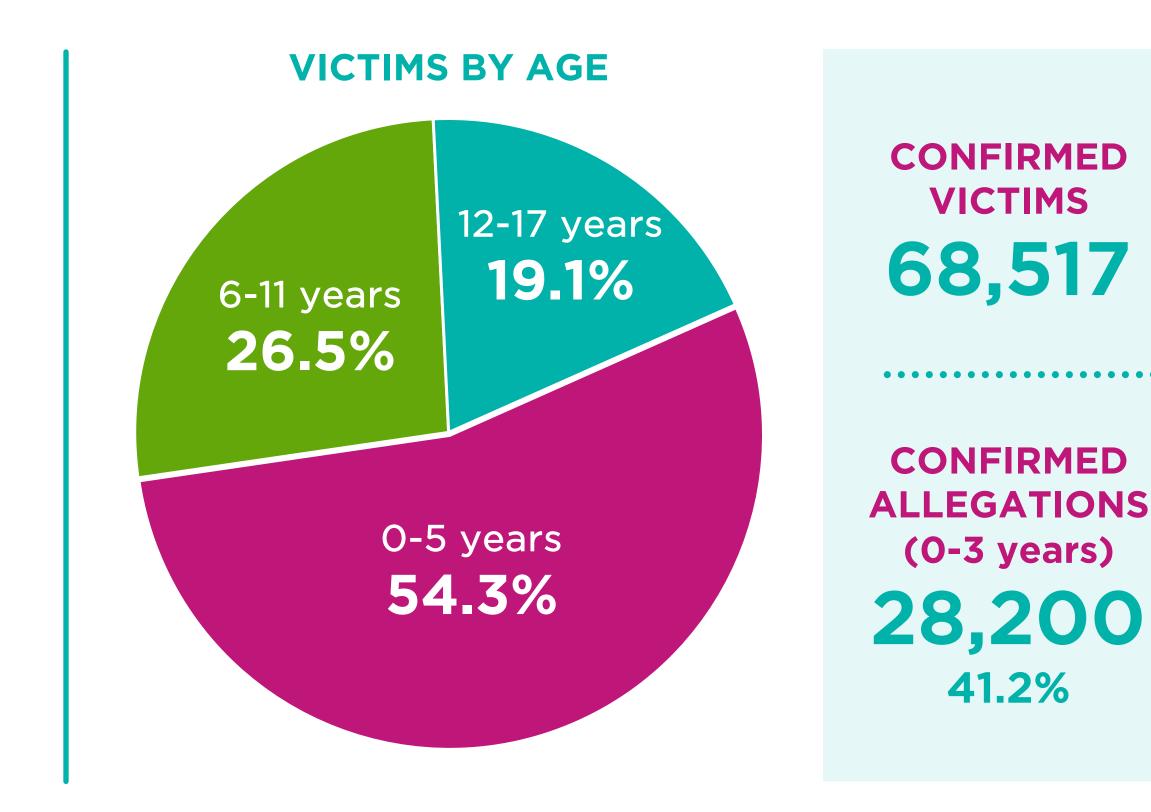
PERCENT OF CONFIRMED ALLEGATIONS BY TYPE OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND AGE IN 2021

TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPI Completed Abuse/Neglect Investigations: Victims; CPI Completed Investigations: Alleged & Confirmed Types of Abuse

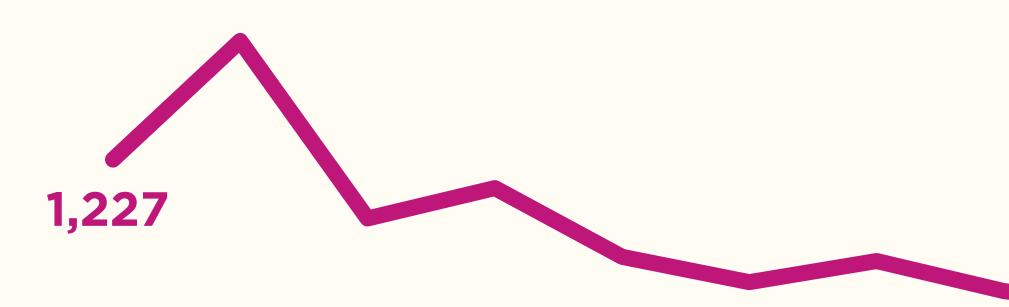




Families are NOT RECEIVING the ongoing support they need

NUMBER OF FAMILIES REFERRED TO FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES

(SEPTEMBER 2020-DECEMBER 2021)

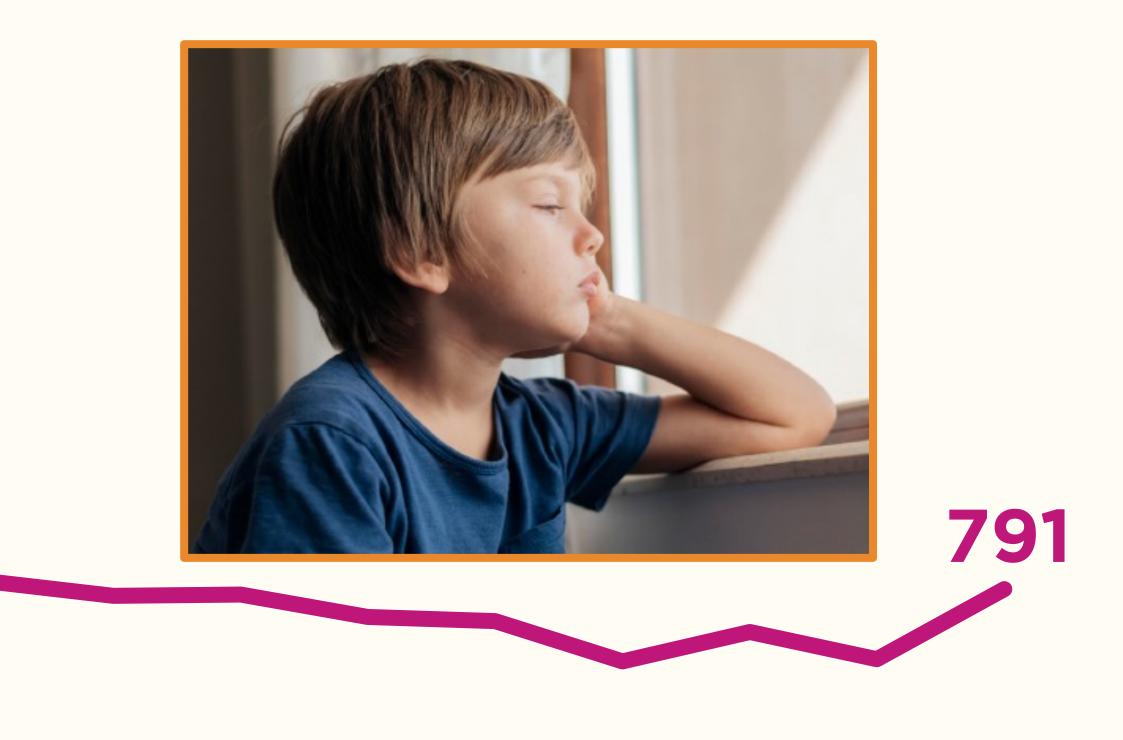


Sep 2020 Nov 2020 Jan 2021

Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Number of Completed Investigations by Disposition and Closure Action by State/Region/Stage County

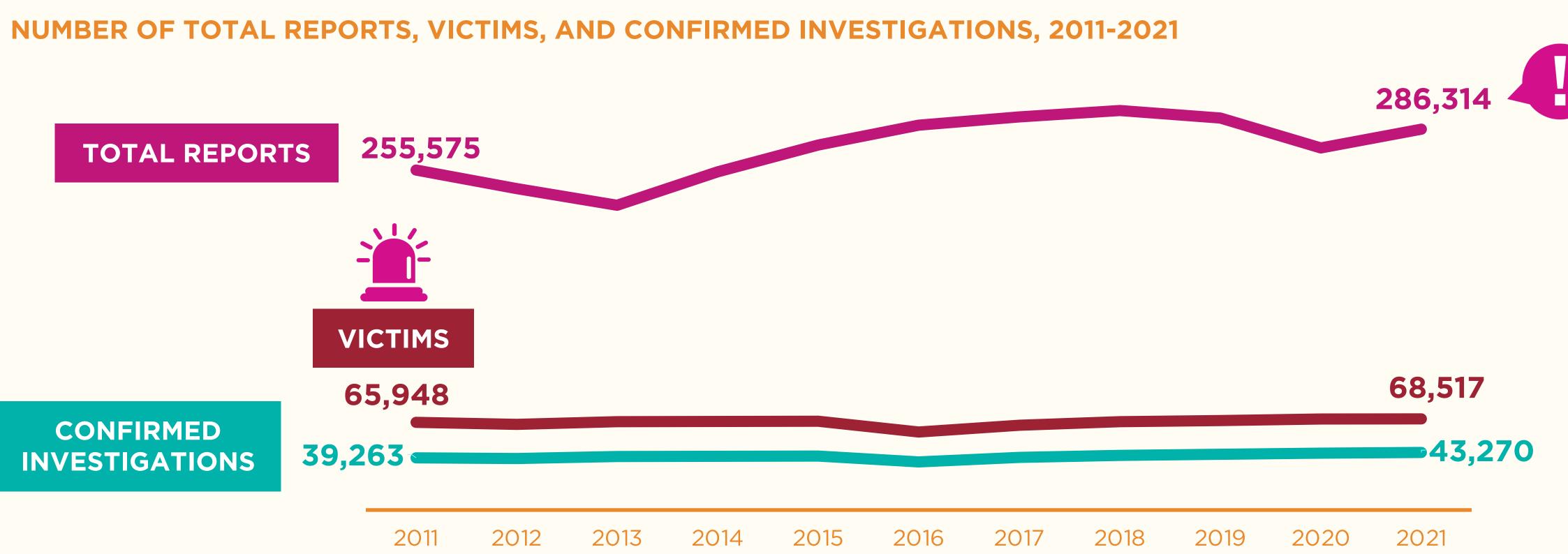
Mar 2021





May 2021 Jul 2021 Sep 2021 Nov 2021

Data indicates the System has not REDUCED OR PREVENTED child abuse and neglect in a DECADE



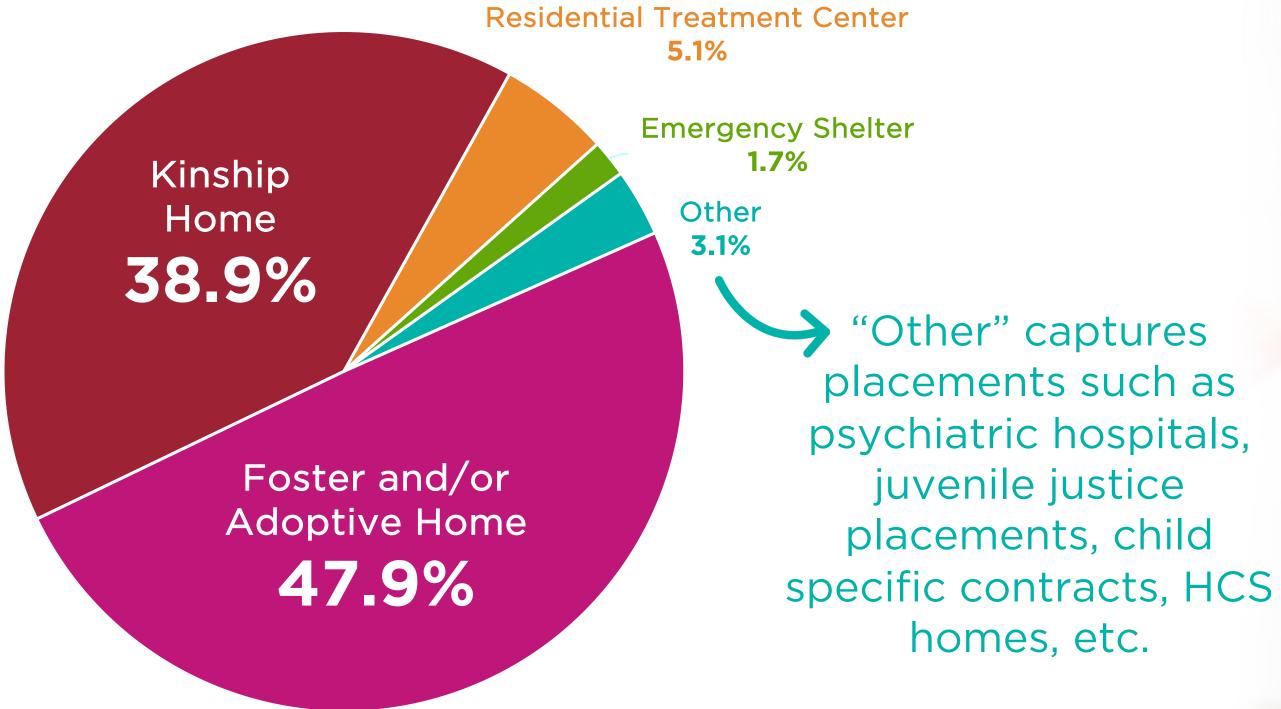


Current State of Texas Foster Care



Children are most often placed in a foster and/or adoptive home or with kin

PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN SUBSTITUTE CARE BY PLACEMENT TYPE AS OF 8/31/2021



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children in DFPS Legal Responsibility during the Fiscal Year: CPS Placements: Children in Substitute Care on August 31

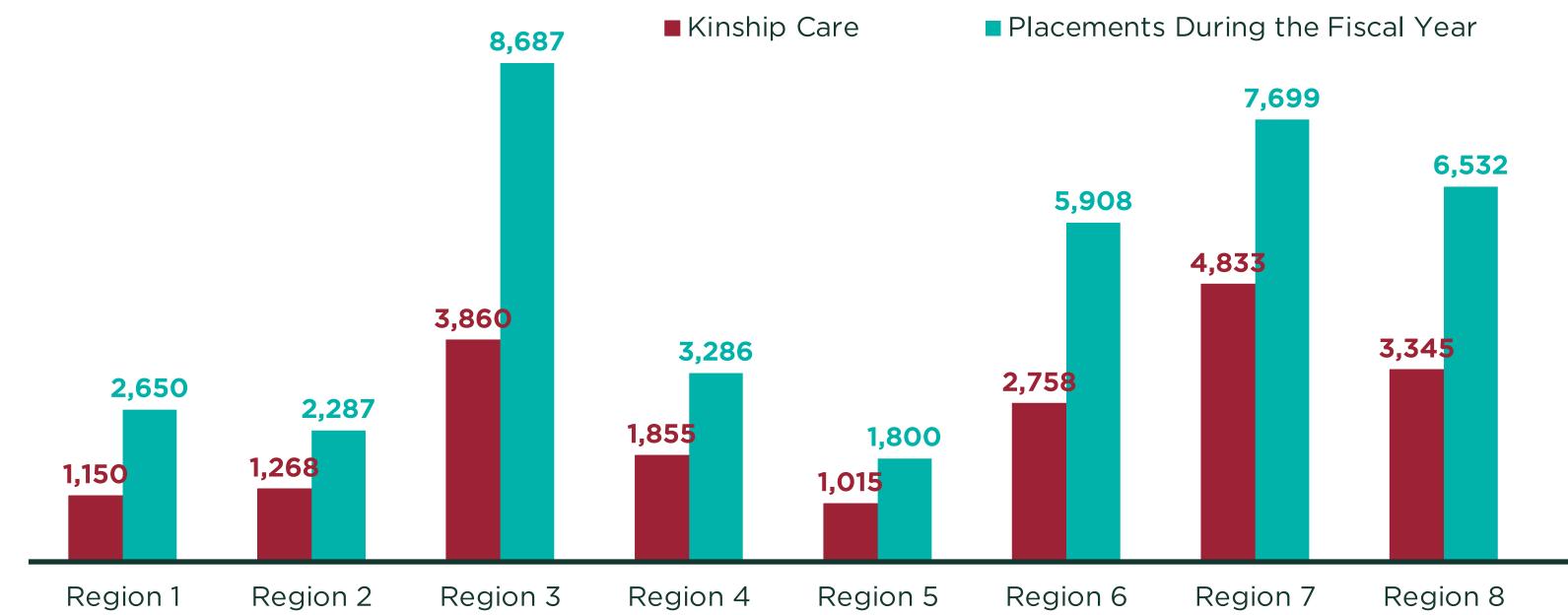


Prevent Child Abuse Texas



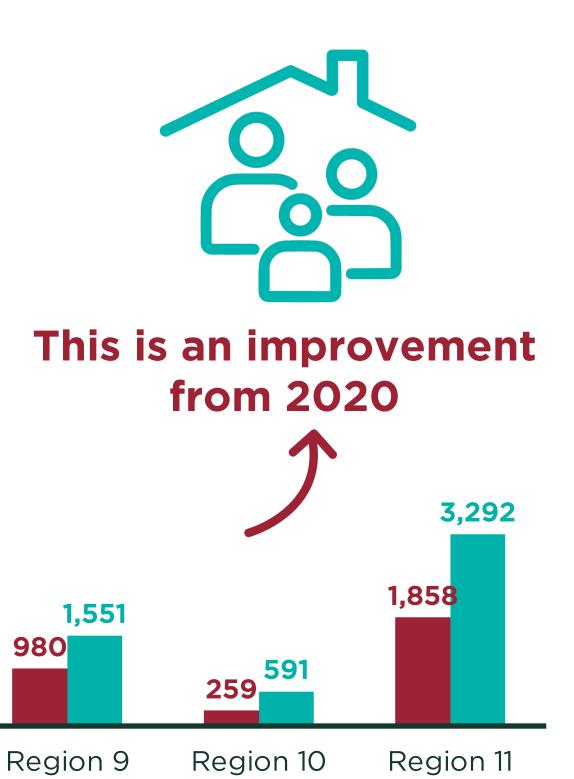
AT LEAST 43% of children in substitute care were placed in a kinship home in 2021

NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN KINSHIP CARE COMPARED TO **TOTAL NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS IN 2021, BY REGION**



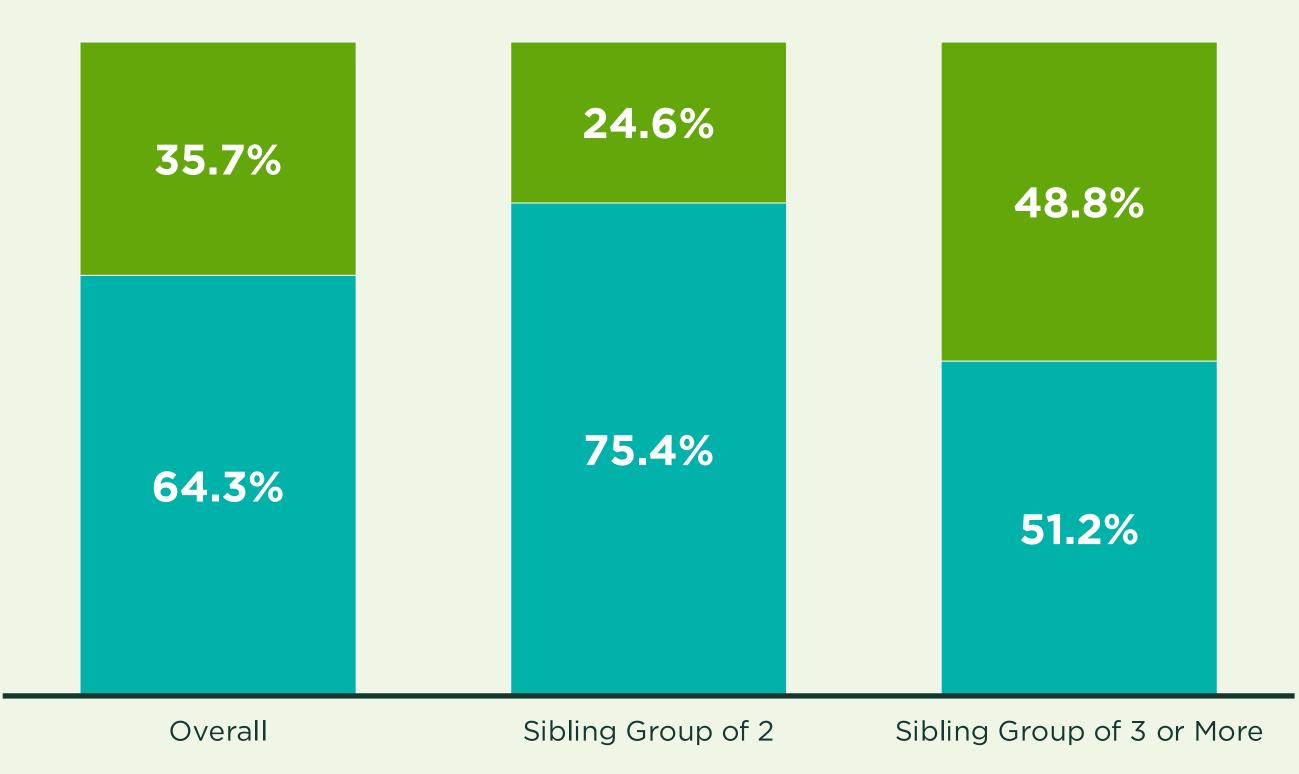
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Substitute Care: Placements During Fiscal Year





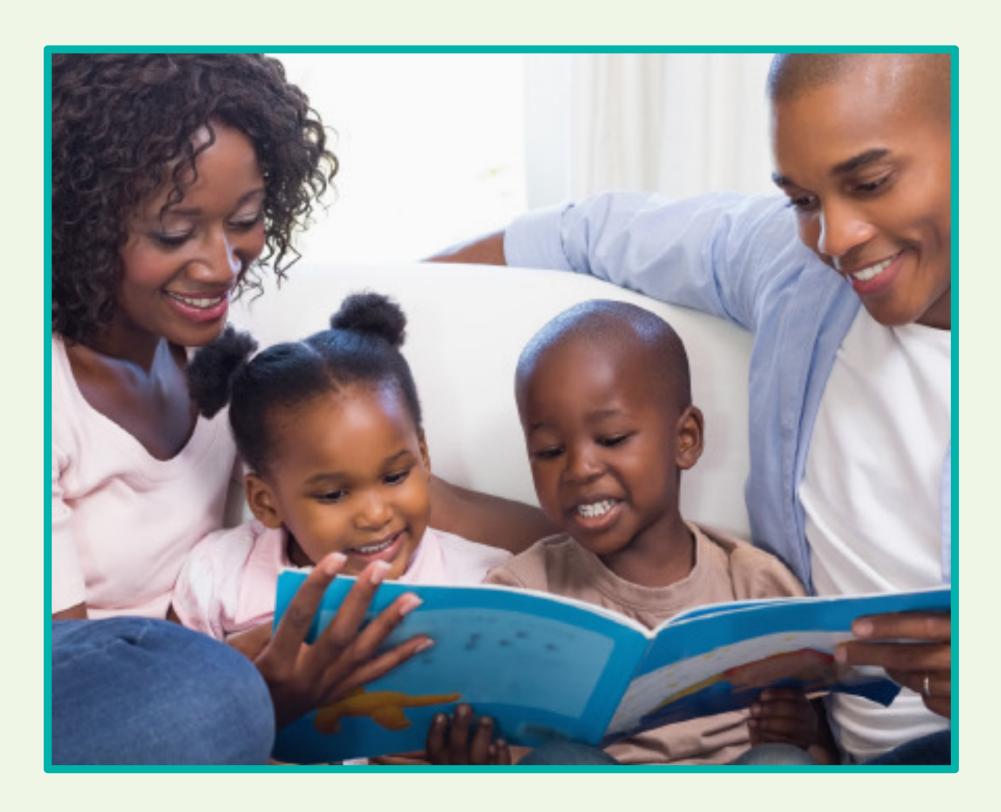
NEARLY TWO-THIRDS of siblings are placed together

Placed Together
Not Placed Together

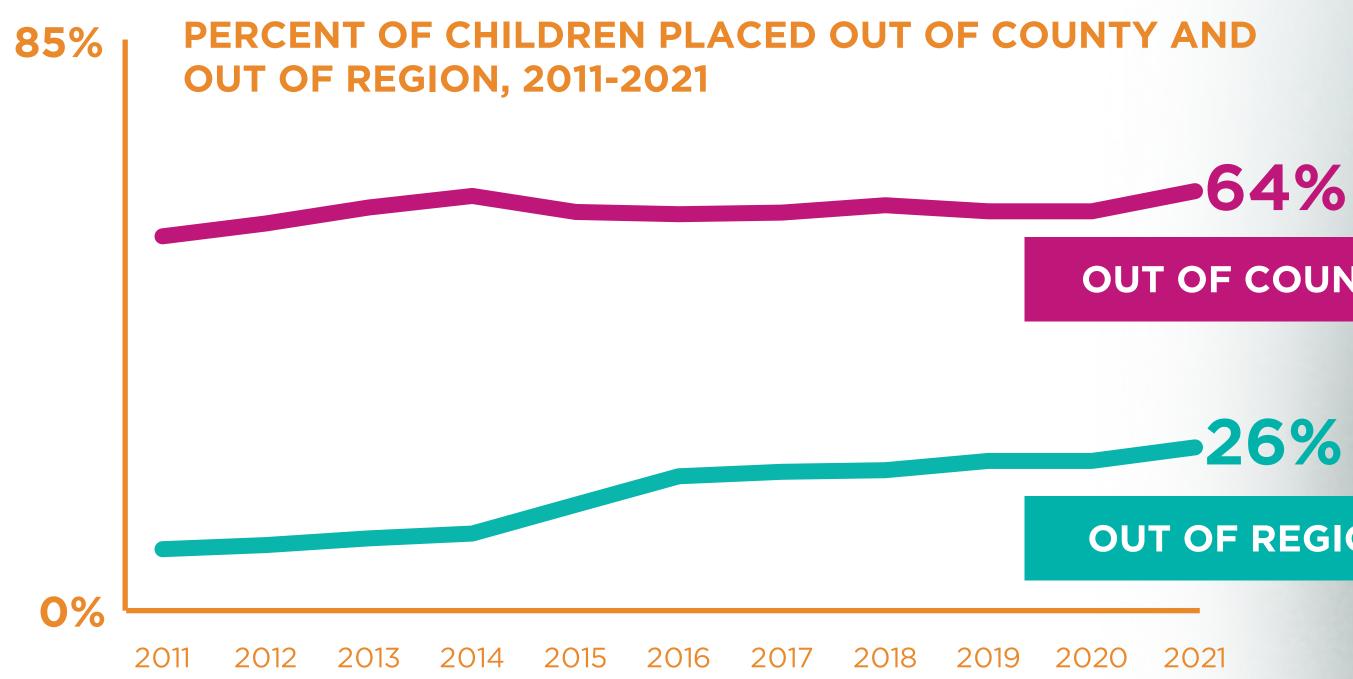


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Placements: Sibling Groups in Substitute Care Placed All Together on August 31





MORE THAN 6 IN 10 kids are not placed in their home county



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, <u>CPS Foster Care Placements: Children (0-17)</u> Placed in Originating County/Region on August 31

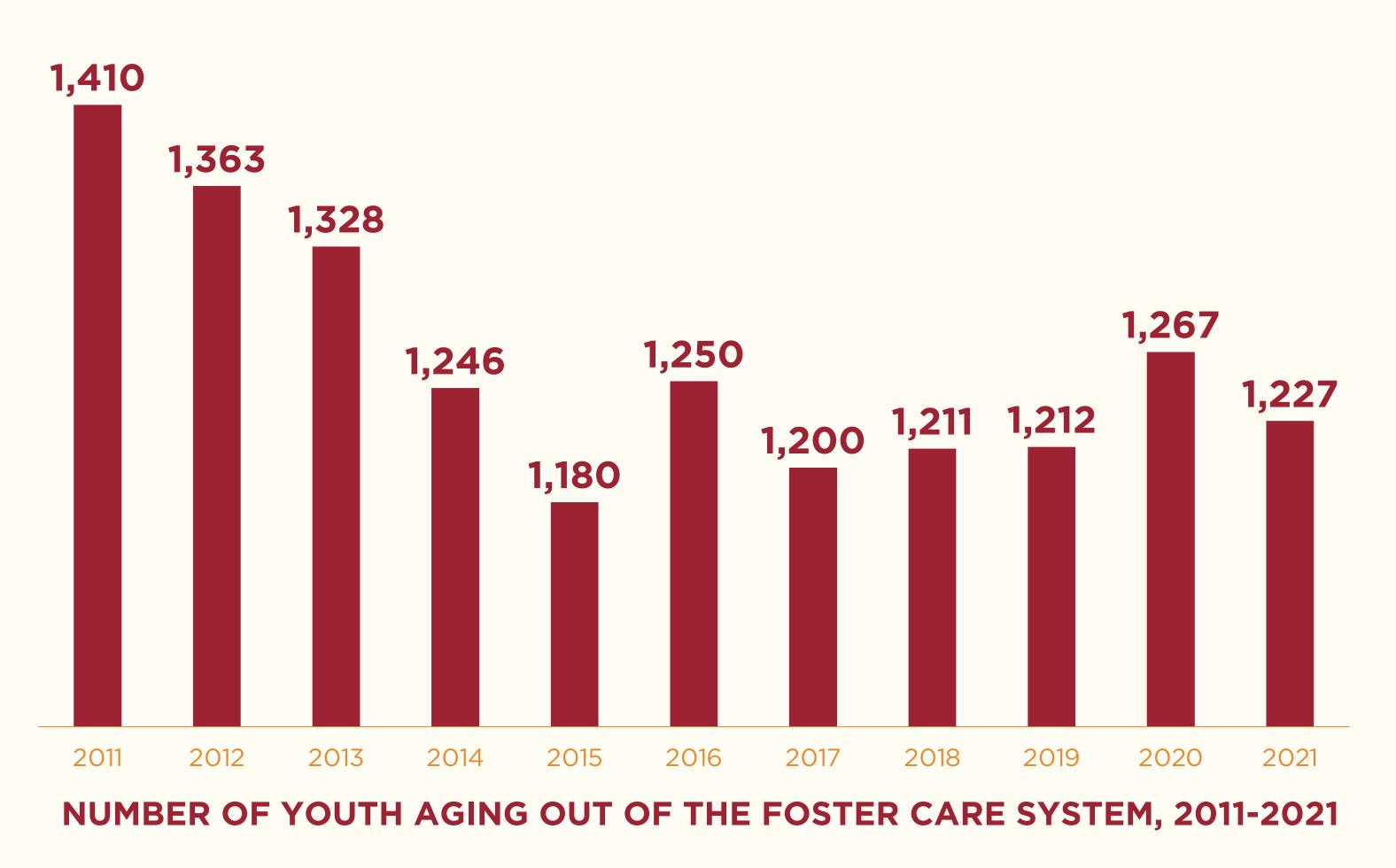


OUT OF COUNTY

OUT OF REGION



There has been a 13% DROP in youth aging out since 2011



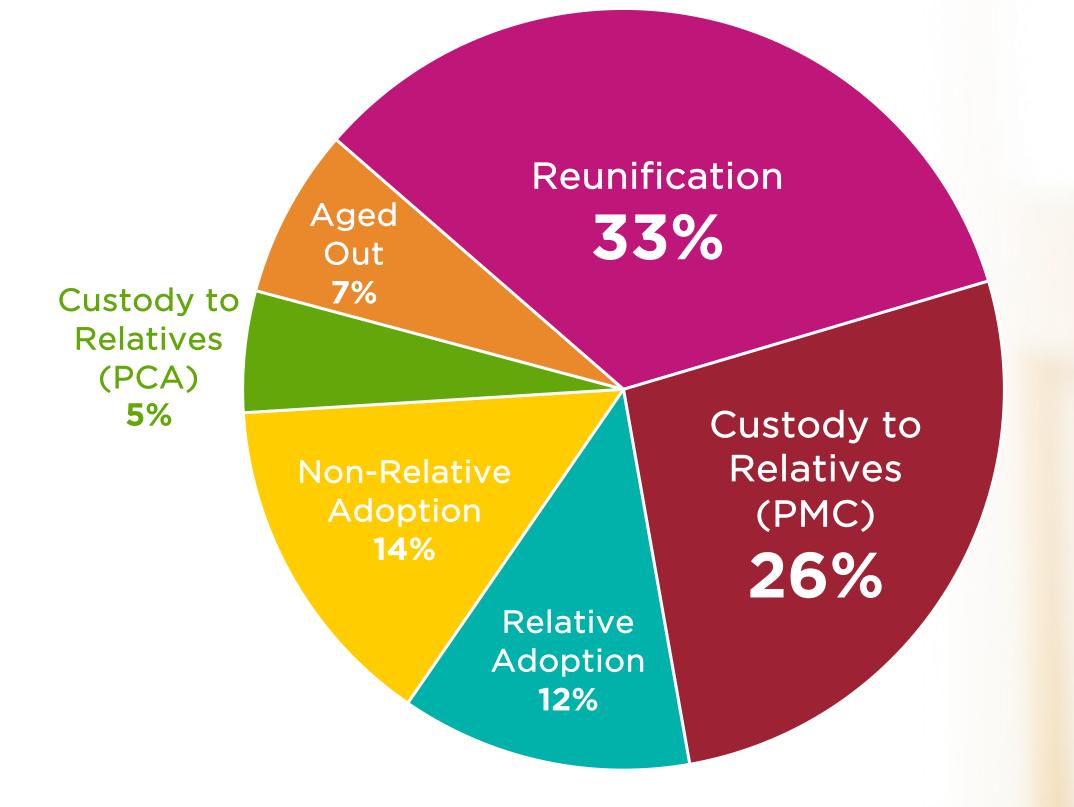
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children Exiting DFPS Legal Custody





ONE-THIRD of kids were REUNIFIED with their family

PERCENT OF CHILDREN EXITING DFPS LEGAL CUSTODY IN 2021, STATEWIDE



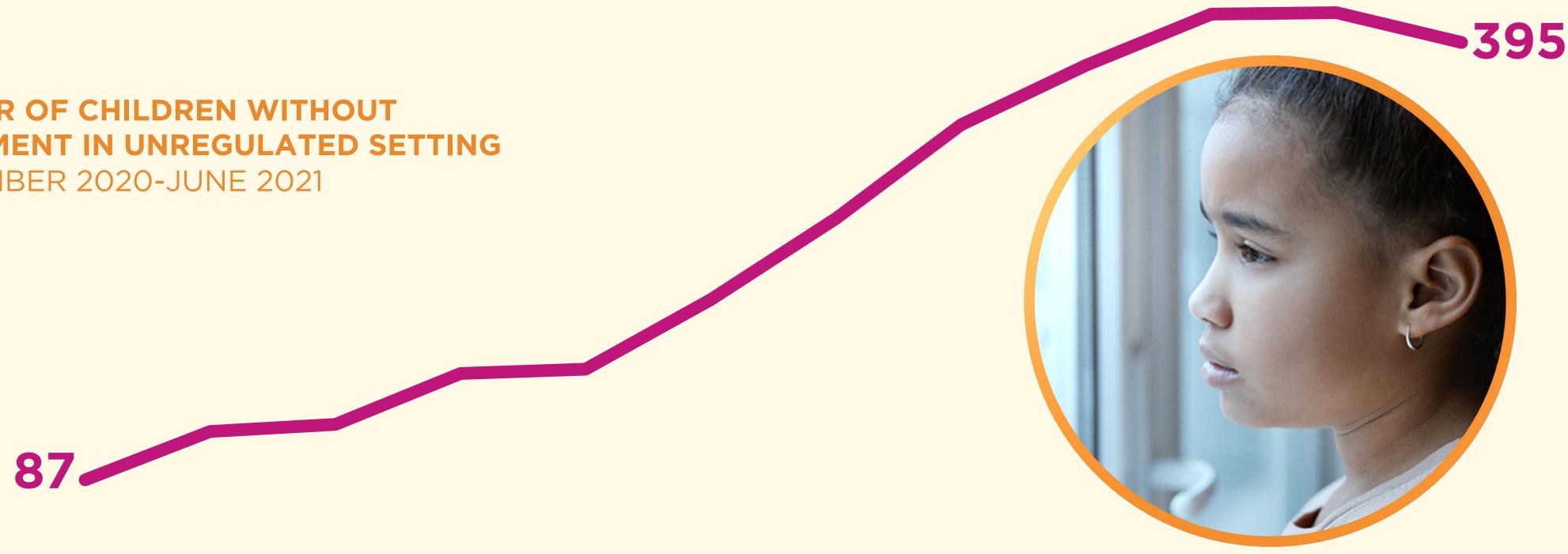
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children Exiting DFPS Legal Custody





The number of children in unregulated settings has **MORE THAN QUADRUPLED**

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WITHOUT **PLACEMENT IN UNREGULATED SETTING** SEPTEMBER 2020-JUNE 2021



Sep 2020

Nov 2020

Jan 2021

Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Children Without Placement Report



Mar 2021

May 2021

Jul 2021

Children are staying in unregulated settings FIVE TIMES LONGER

AVERAGE NUMBER OF NIGHTS CHILDREN WITHOUT PLACEMENT SPENT IN UNREGULATED SETTING SEPTEMBER 2020-JUNE 2021

3.6

Sep 2020 Nov 2020 Jan 2021 Mar 2021 May 2021 Jul 2021

Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Children Without Placement Report



18.2





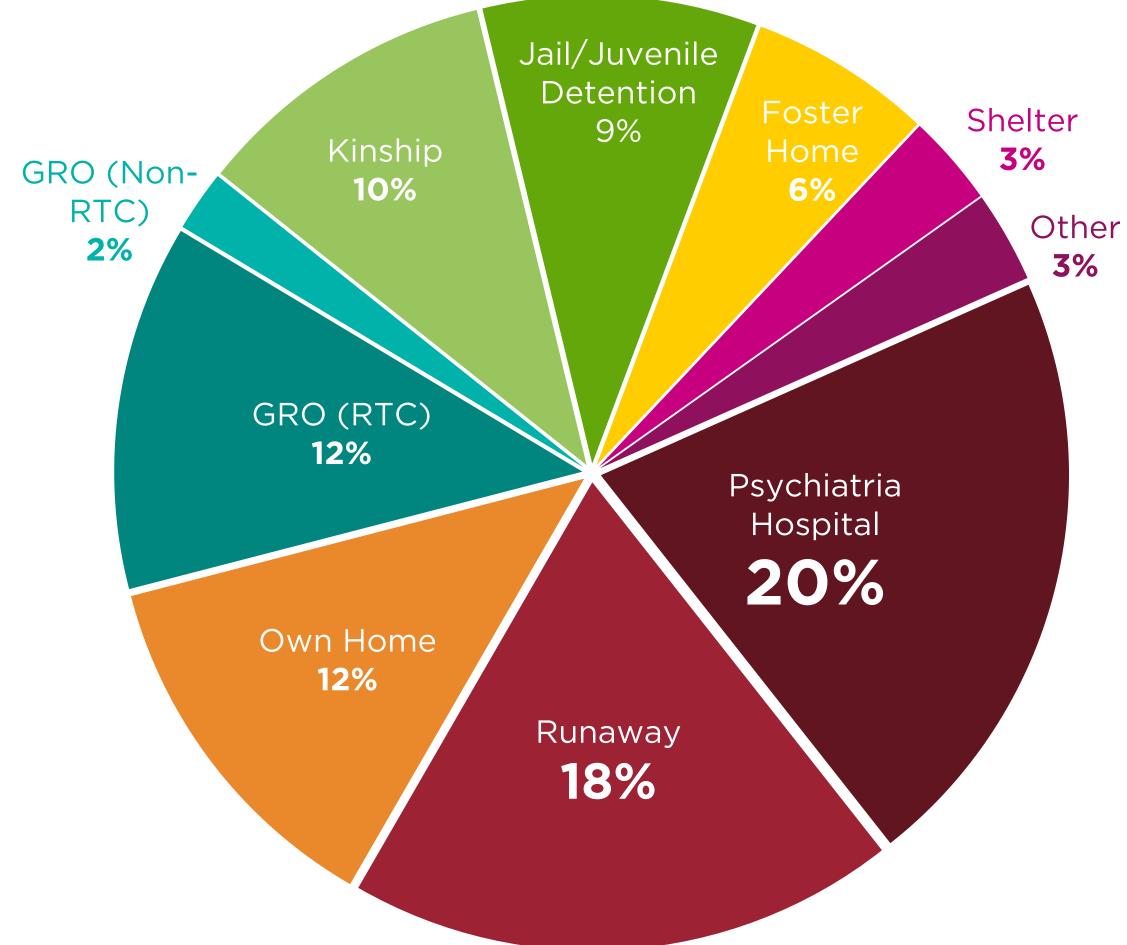
Children Without Placement (CWOP) came from DIFFERENT PLACES

PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN CUSTODY BY PLACEMENT PRIOR TO CWOP STATUS IN 2021



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Children Without Placement Report





Texas Child Welfare Outcomes



4 IN 10 families have consistently been re-reported for abuse/neglect within 5 years of participating in FBSS

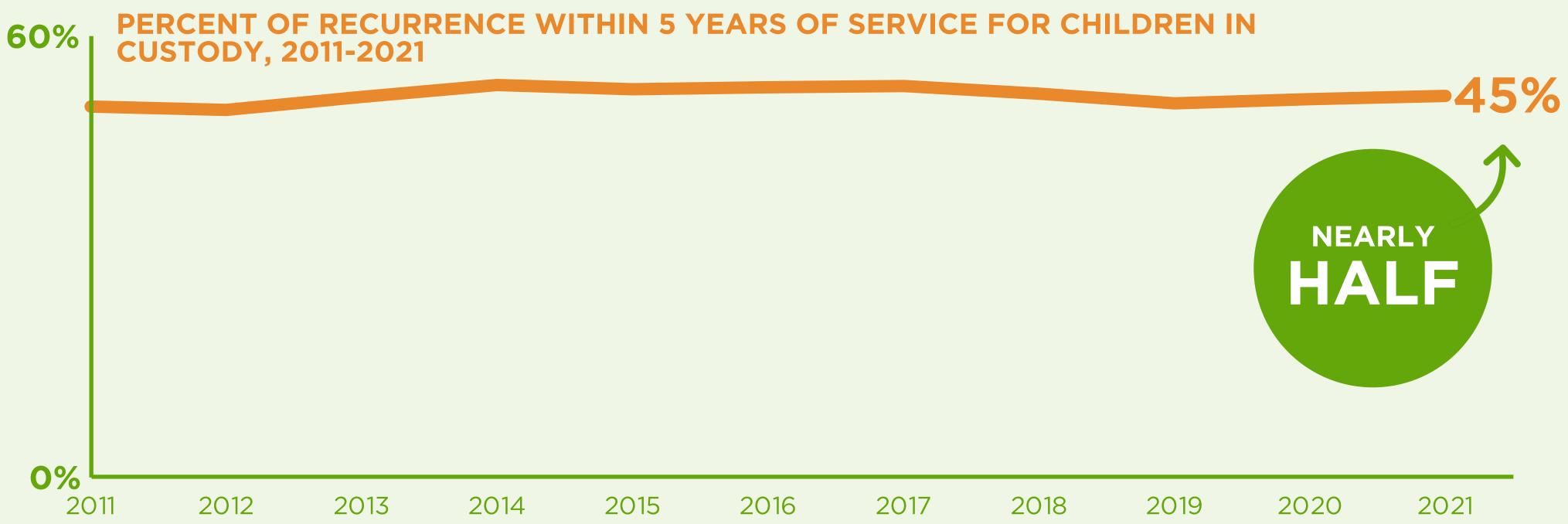


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Family Preservation: Six Month, One Year, and Five Year Outcomes



Something isn't working for families who receive services

Within 5 years of exiting DFPS custody, NEARLY HALF of the children are victims in another investigation

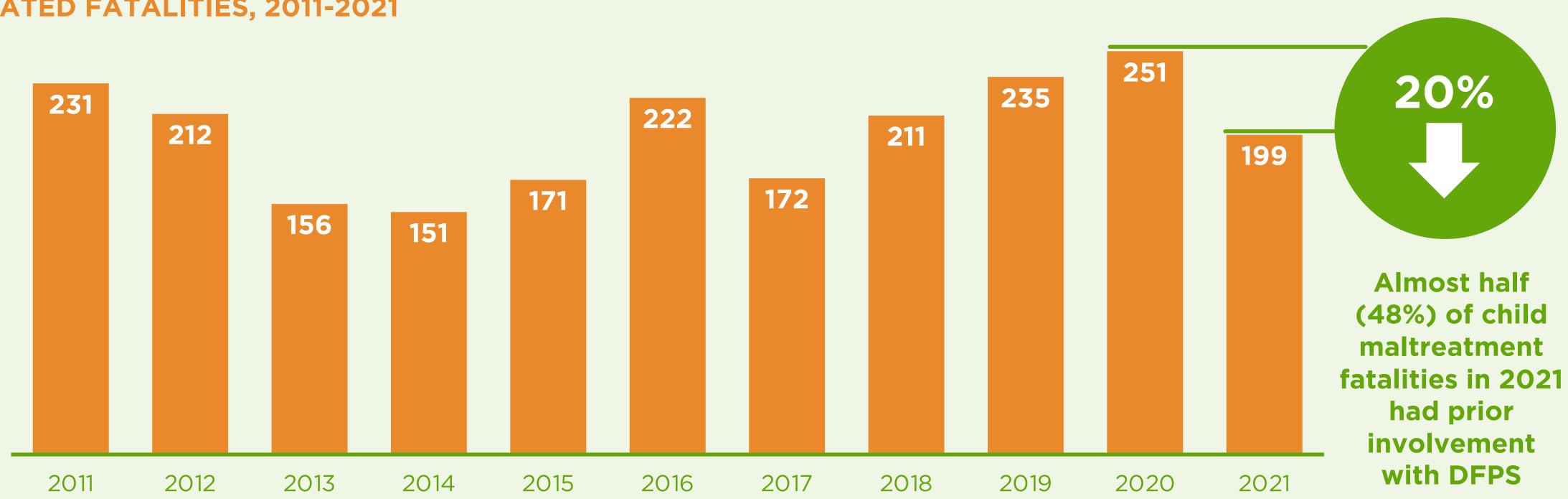


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Conservatorship: Six Month, One Year, and Five Year Outcomes



Child abuse and neglect related fatalities **DECREASED BY 20% in 2021**

NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RELATED FATALITIES, 2011-2021



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, <u>Texas Child Fatality Investigations: Abuse/Neglect Related Texas Child Fatalities</u>

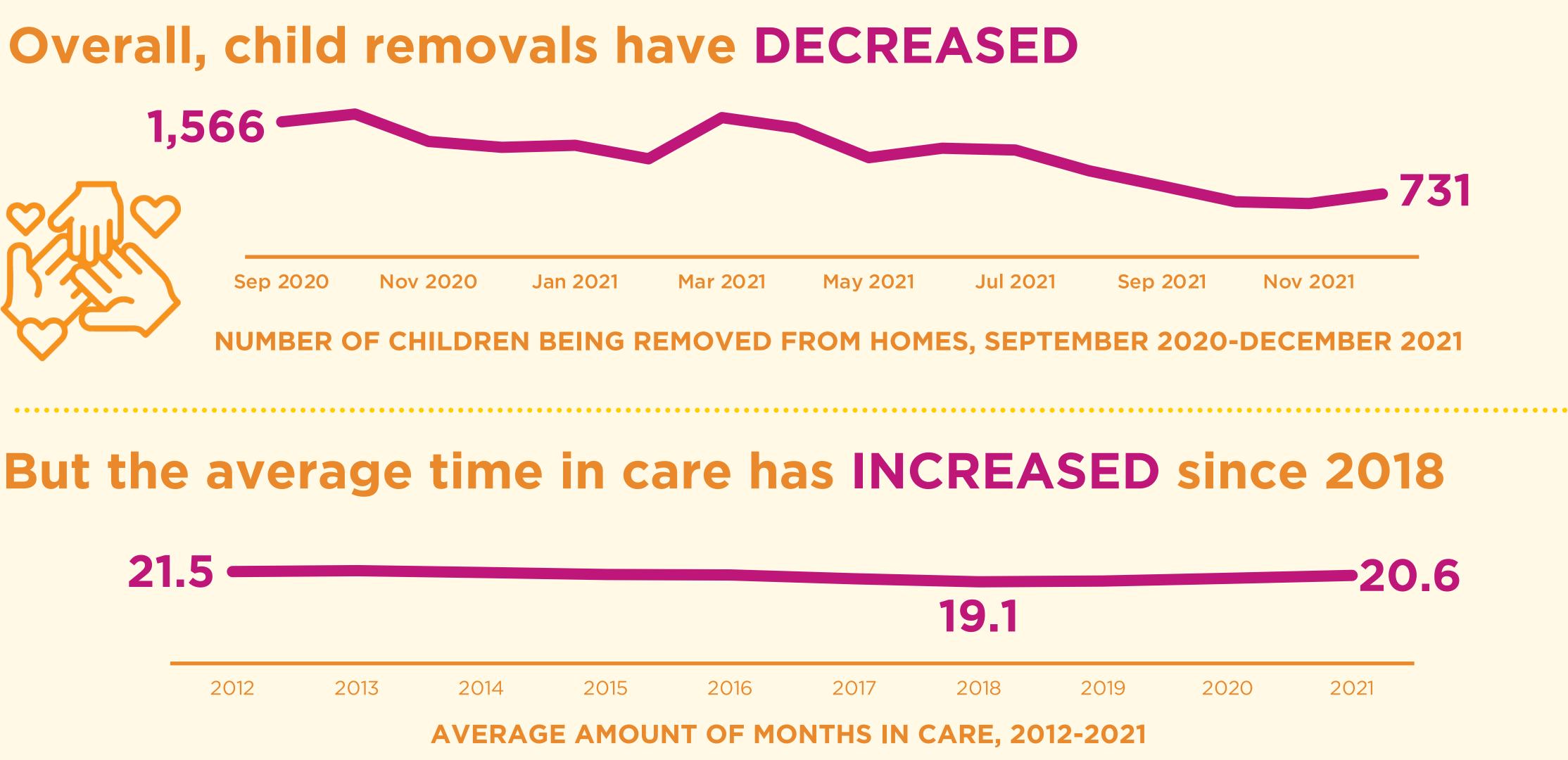


entered in 2021

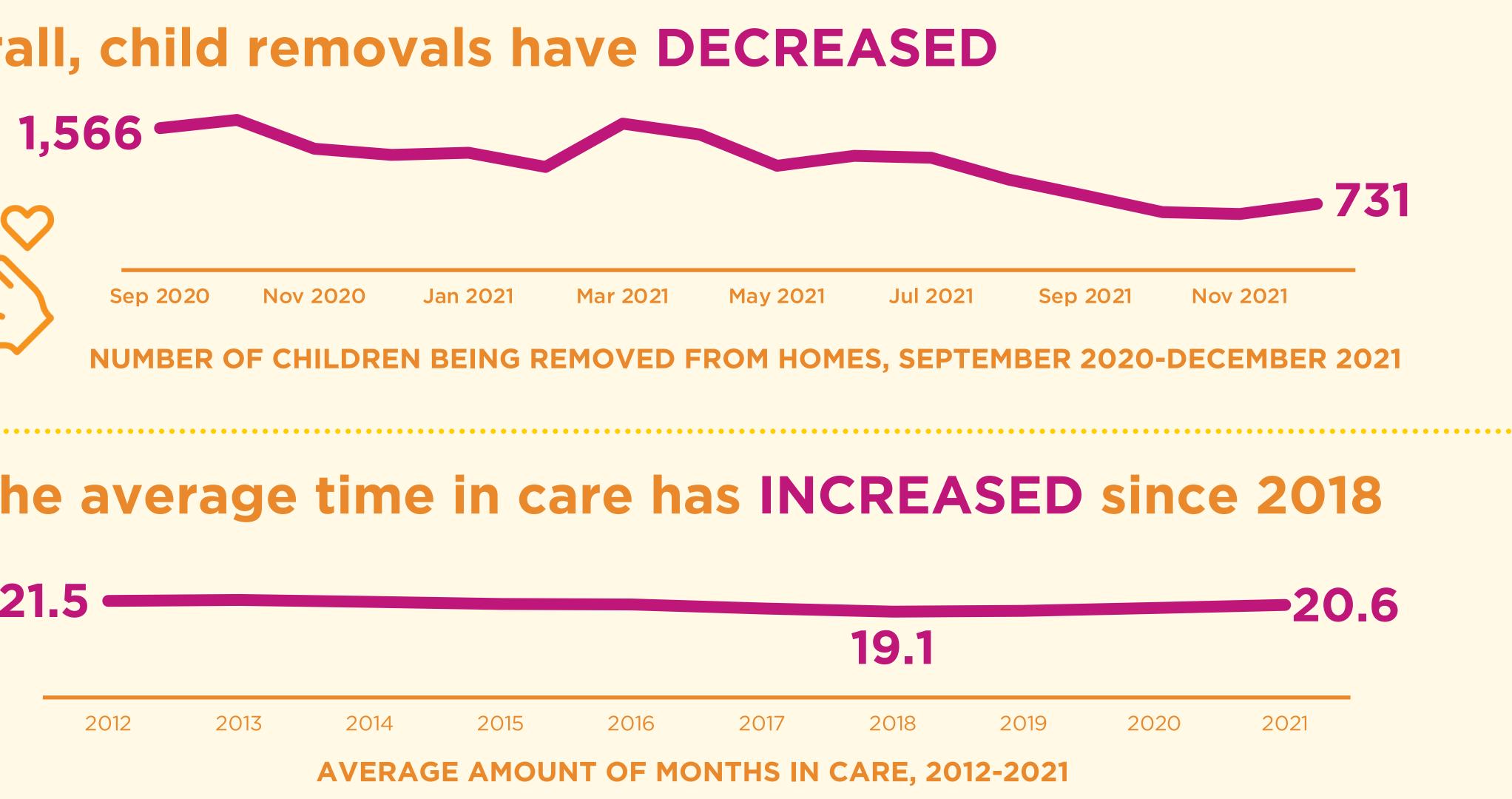


Legal Custody; Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals





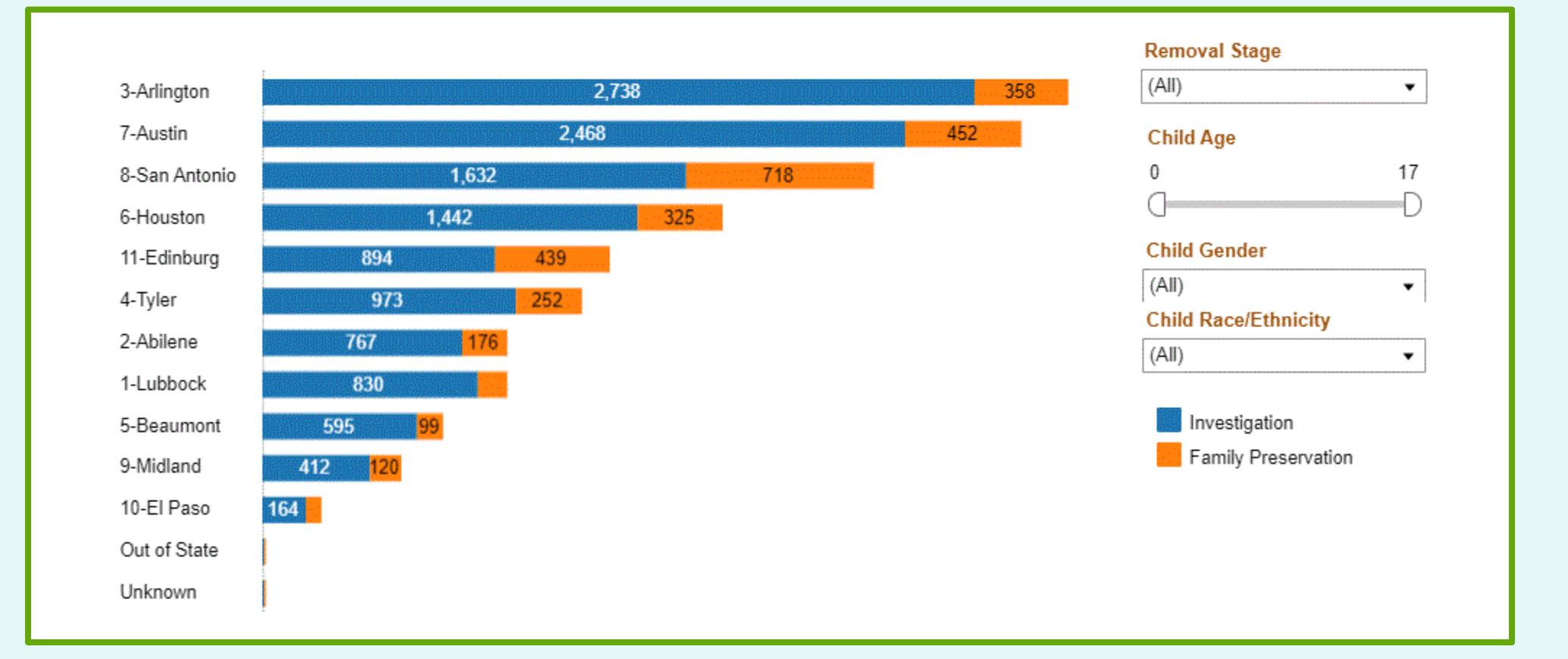




Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children Exiting DFPS Legal Custody Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Demographics of Children New in Substitute Care for Children Age 0-17



Families experiencing removals are NOT RECEIVING FBSS



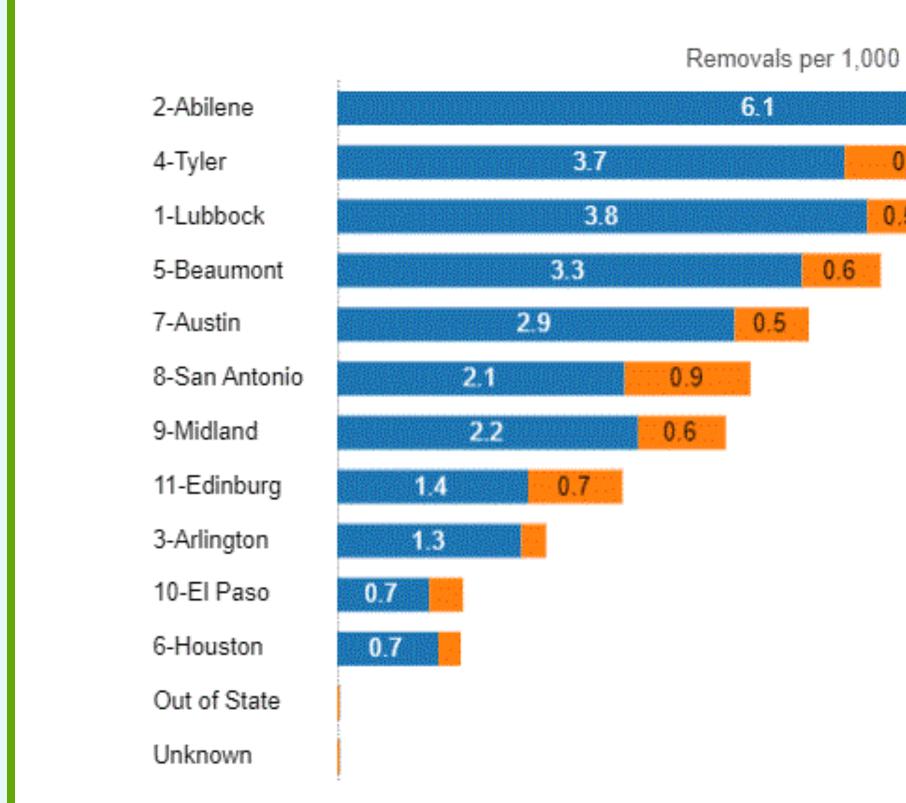
NUMBER OF ANNUAL REMOVALS IN INVESTIGATIONS VERSUS FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES IN 2021, BY REGION

Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals





Families experiencing removals are NOT RECEIVING FBSS



RATE OF ANNUAL REMOVALS IN INVESTIGATIONS VERSUS FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES IN 2021, BY REGION

Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals



1.4 (All) • 9 Child Age 0 17 Child Gender (All) • Child Race/Ethnicity (All) •	Child Population	Removal Stage
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OUTCOME 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse

Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of or indicated child abuse and/or neglect during 6 months of the year, what percentage had ano substantiated or indicated report within a 6-mor

OUTCOME 2: Reduce the incidence of child ab

Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster of the year, what percentage were the subject of su or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or

OUTCOME 3: Increase permanency for children

Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster car year, what percentage left either to reunification legal guardianship?

Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster co the year and were identified as having a diagnos what percentage left either to reunification, ado guardianship?

Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster c the year and were older than age 12 at the time recent entry into care, what percentage left to re adoption, or legal guardianship?

Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care of year to emancipation, what percentage were agy younger at the time of entry into care?

OUTCOME 4: Reduce time in foster care to reu

Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their p caretakers at the time of discharge from foster of the year, what percentage were reunified less the from the time of entry into foster care?

Measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster of the year, what percentage reentered care within a prior foster care episode?

OUTCOME 5: Reduce time in foster care to ado

Measure 5.1: Of all children discharged from for during the year to a finalized adoption, what per exited care less than (a) 12 months from the time removal from home?

(b) At least 12 months but less than 24 months

	PROGRESS 2014 - 2018	TX 2018	FEDERAL MEDIAN	TX COMPARED TO FEDERAL MEDIAN			
e and/or neglec	t						
f substantiated g the first other onth period?	5.9% Better	2.6%	5.5%	BETTER			
ouse and/or neglect in foster care							
r care during substantiated or facility staff?	25.9% Better	0.23%	0.26%	COMPARABLE			
en in foster care							
are during the on, adoption, or	NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE	93.5%	90.3%	BETTER			
care during osed disability, option, or legal	NO SIGNIFCANT CHANGE	79.4 %	82.4%	WORSE			
care during e of their most reunification,	8.5% Better	63 .1%	63 .1%	COMPARABLE			
during the age 12 or	28.3% Better	24.4%	15.8%	WORSE			
unification without increasing reentry							
parents or care during han 12 months	10% Better	52.3%	63.6%	WORSE			
care during in 12 months of	15.5% WORSE	3.4%	7.1%	BETTER			
option							
oster care reentage Naref latest Te	12.3% WORSE	2.8%	2.7%	COMPARABLE			
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the year, what percentage were reunified less the from the time of entry into foster care?

OUTCOME 1: Reduce recurrence of child abuse

Measure 5.1: Of all children when were victims of ar indicated child abuse and/or nealect during a wind the year what percentage had ano substantiated or indicated report within a 6-mor removal from home?

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OUTCOME 3: Increase permanency for children

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the year and were identified as having a diagnose what percentage left either to reunification, ado guardianship?

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OUTCOME 5: Reduce time in foster care to add IEXProtec

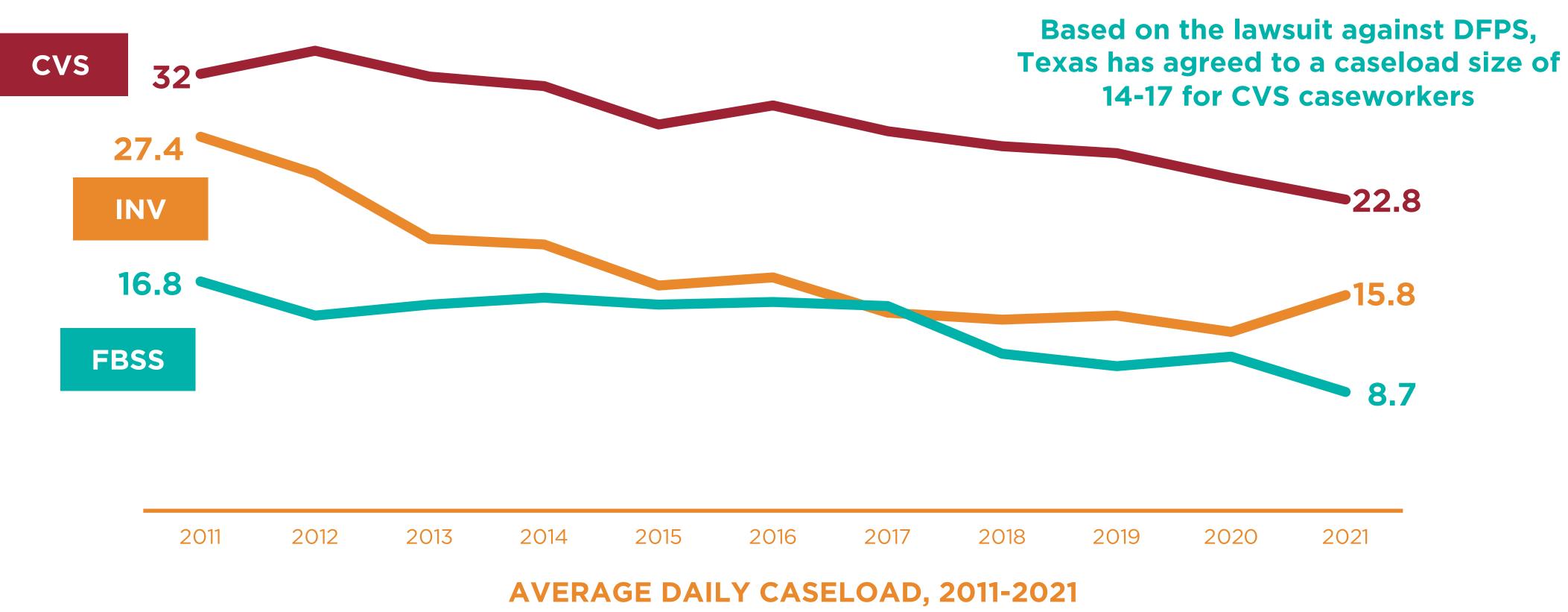
Measure 5.1: Of all children discharged from texter care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care less than (a) 12 months from the time of lates

nan 12 months	BETTER	52.5%	03.0%	WOK3E
	PROGRESS 2014 - 2018	TX 2018	FEDERAL MEDIAN	TX COMPARED TO FEDERAL MEDIAN
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onth period?	WORSE	,.	,•	
	lect in foster care			
r care during substantiated	25.9%	0.23%	0.26%	COMPARABLE
or facility staff?	BETTER			
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care during osed disability,	NO SIGNIFCANT	79.4%	82.4%	WORSE
option, or legal		23.2%	41.1%	BETTER
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ddring: ଗ୍ରିଡିup age 12 or	28.3%	24.4%	15.8%	WORSE
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parents or care during	10%	52.3%	63.6%	WORSE
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care during	15.5%			
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ercentdge ^r 1e ne of latest	12.3% WORSE	2.8%	2.7%	COMPARABLE

Texas Child Protection System Workforce



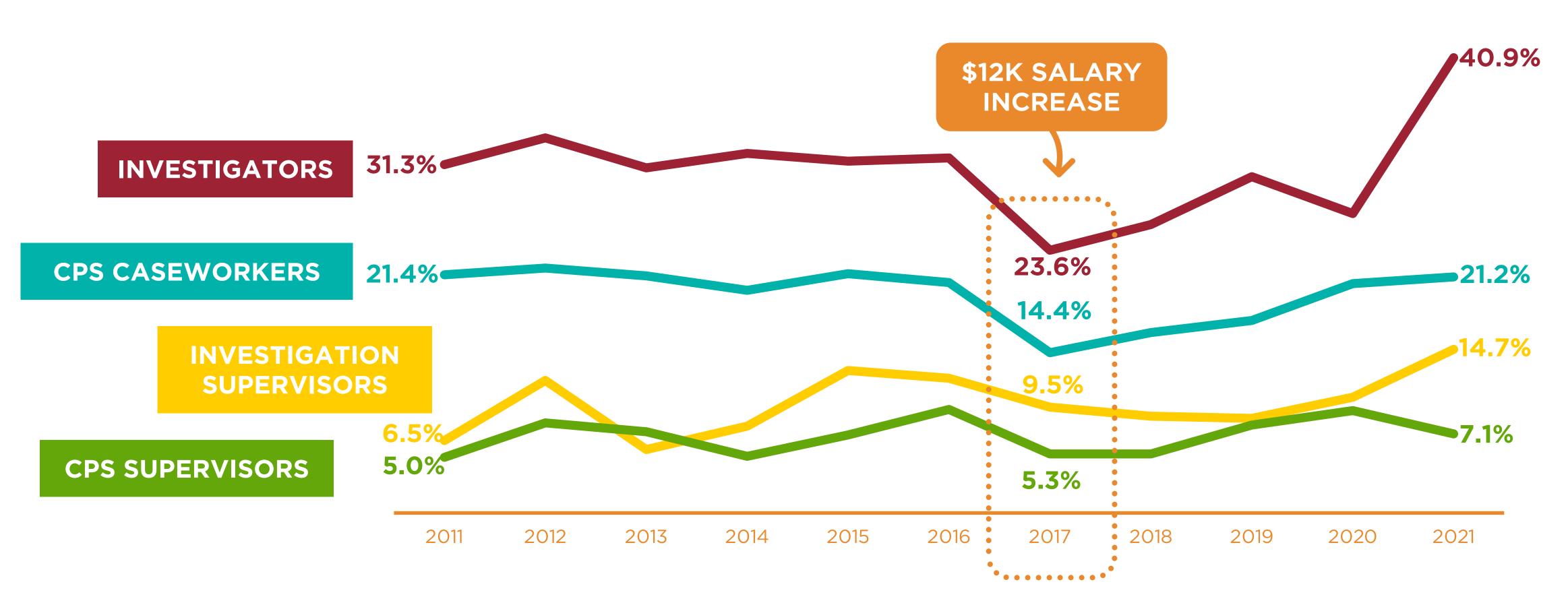
Decreased caseloads INCREASE SAFETY OUTCOMES for kids



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective (CPI / CCI / CPS): Average Daily Caseload



Workforce turnover has INCREASED FOR STAFF since 2017



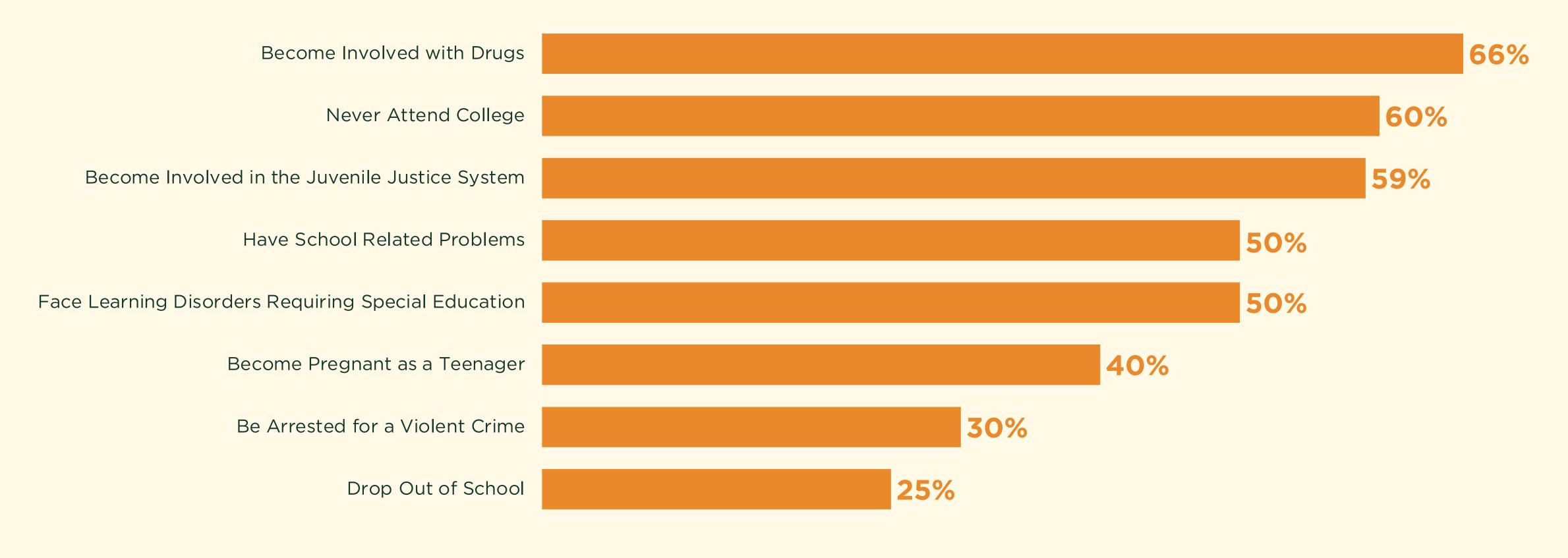
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective (CPI/CCI/CPS): Staff Turnover



Moving The System Upstream



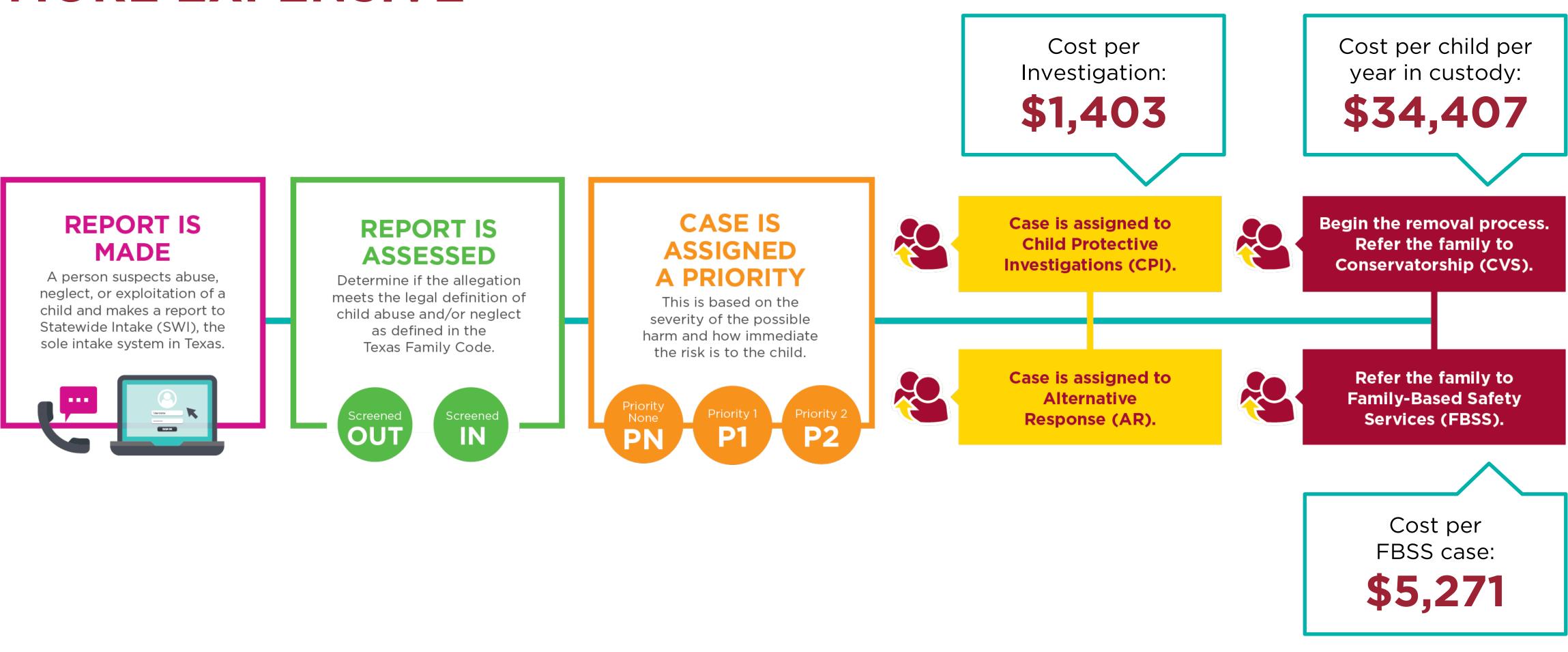
As a result of trauma/abuse, at-risk children are more likely to...



Source: Barnett, W.S., & Masse, L.N. (2002).; Swan, N. (1998).; Campbell, F.A., et al. (2002).; Widom, C., & Maxfield, M. (2001).



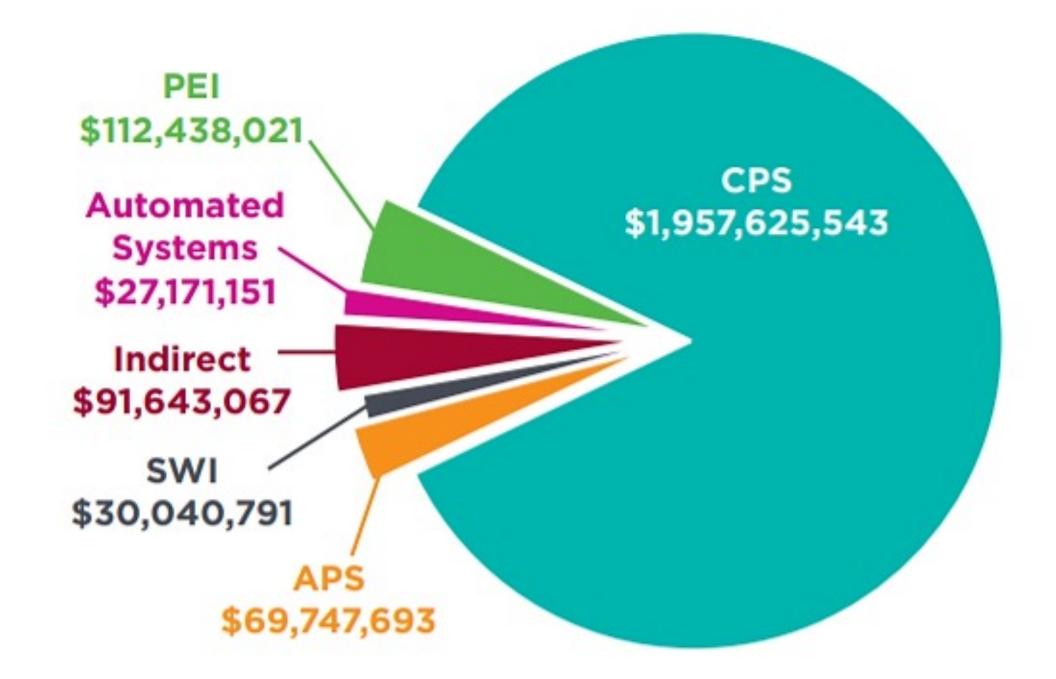
As a case flows further into the system, it becomes MORE EXPENSIVE





JUST 5% OF TEXAS' BUDGET is spent on early prevention efforts in comparison to Child Protection Services

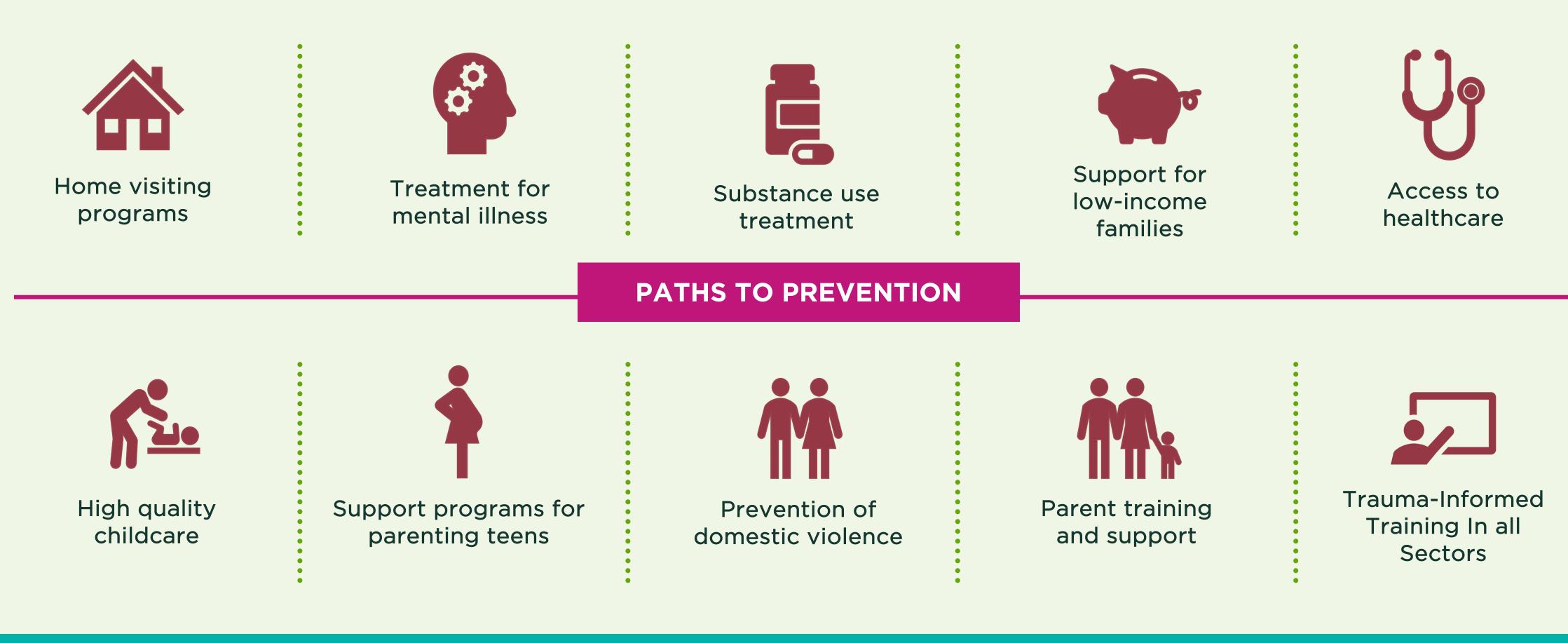
TEXAS PREVENTION BUDGET VERSUS CHILD PROTECTION BUDGET APPROVED FOR 2022







The EARLY SUPPORT OF A CARING ADULT can build a child's resiliency and prevent/mitigate the damaging effects of stress responses to ACEs

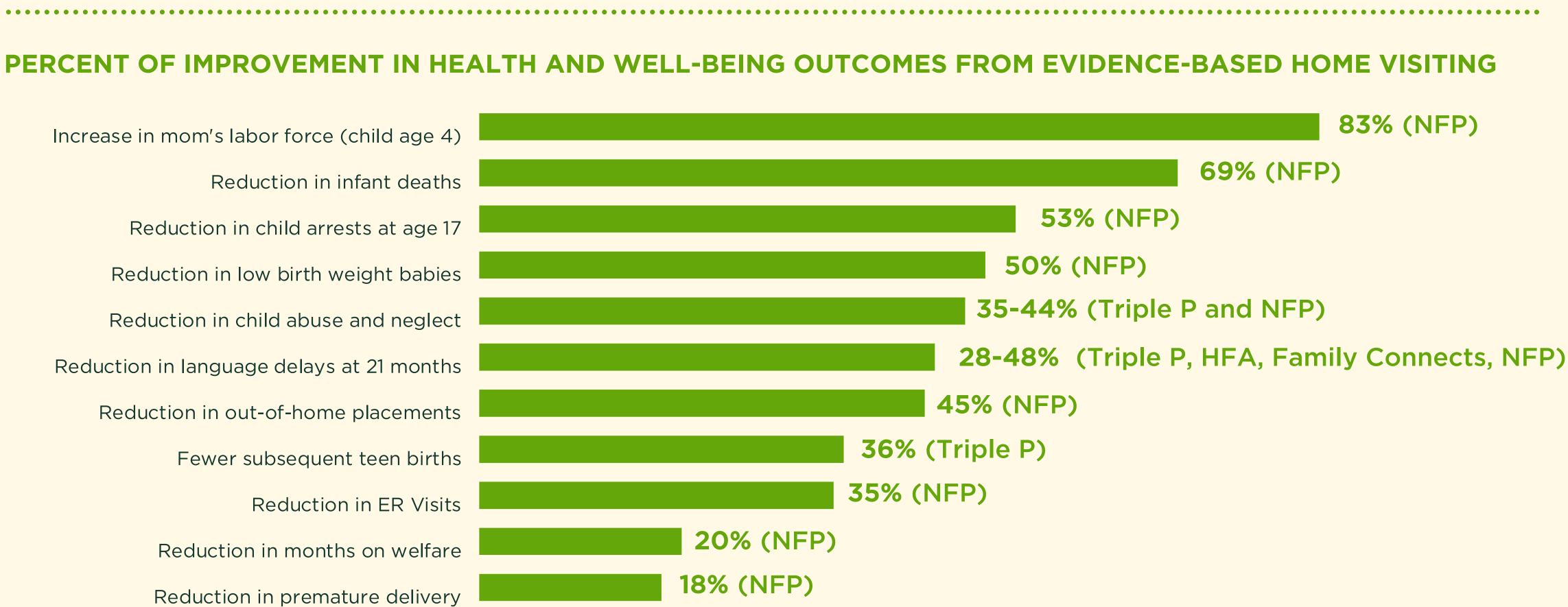




Evidence-based home visiting programs IMPROVED health and well-being outcomes

Increase in mom's labor force (child age 4) Reduction in infant deaths Reduction in child arrests at age 17 Reduction in low birth weight babies Reduction in child abuse and neglect Reduction in language delays at 21 months Reduction in out-of-home placements Fewer subsequent teen births Reduction in ER Visits Reduction in months on welfare Reduction in premature delivery

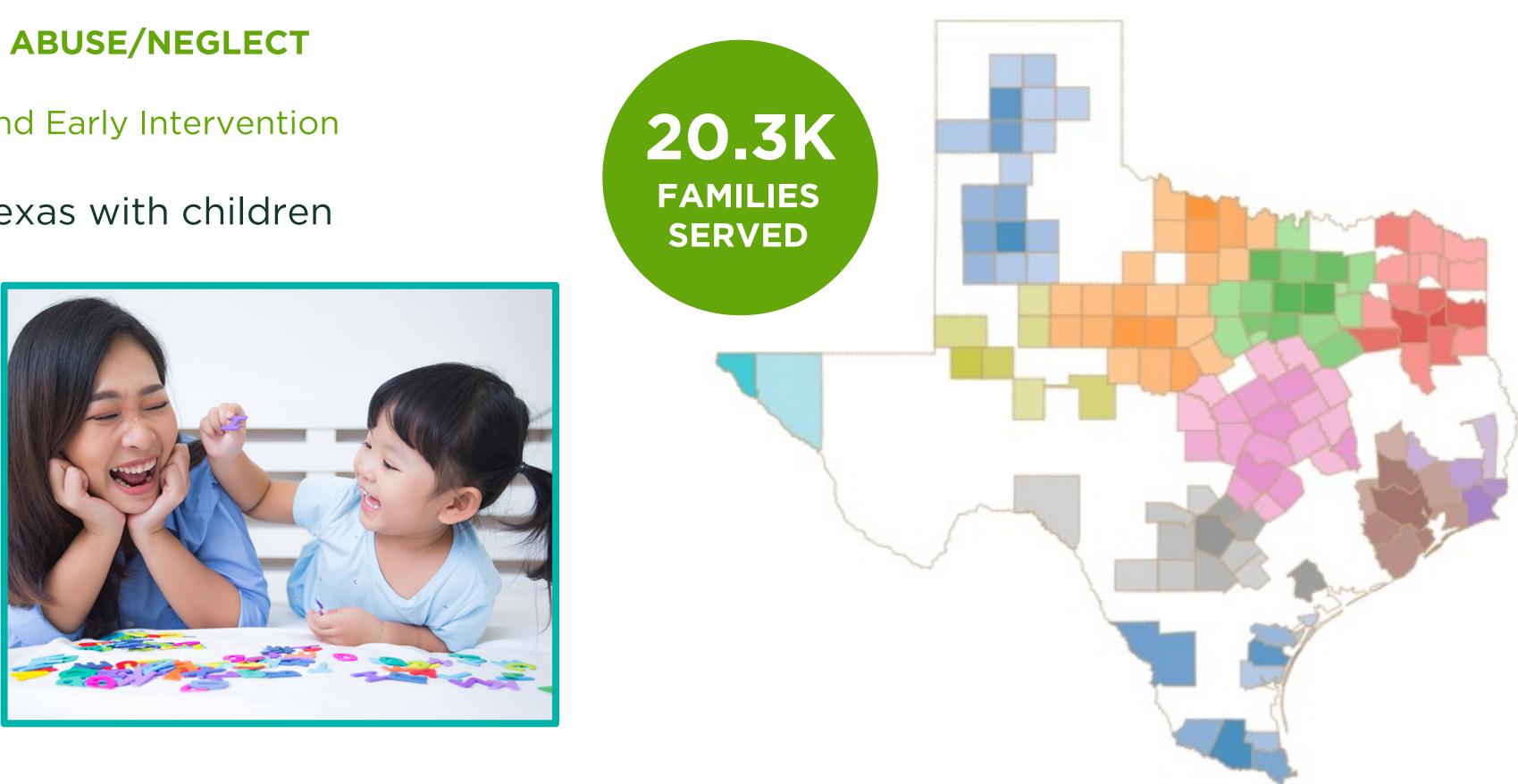




Who has ACCESS to these prevention services?

FAMILIES SERVED IN CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT PREVENTION PROGRAMS SFY 2021 DFPS Prevention and Early Intervention

- **1.8 million** families in Texas with children under age 6
- **413,000** of these families may benefit from Home Visiting services
- Less than 5% of families who could benefit from Home Visiting receive it



*Chart from DFPS PEI website *Data: Wilson, A.C. & Whitfield, B. (2020). Profiles of Families in Texas who could benefit from home visiting services. State profile created for use by TexProtects with Texas policymakers and state officials.



In order to PREVENT the occurrence of abuse and neglect, families must be SUPPORTED as early as possible

PREVENTION SPECTRUM

PRIMARY

Primary prevention focuses on reaching families **before** the first occurrence of child maltreatment.

SECONDARY Secondary prevention focuses on efforts to prevent maltreatment among families considered to be at **high risk**.

Intervening with families to meet their needs can occur at various times to prevent child maltreatment



TERTIARY

Tertiary prevention focuses on mitigating the negative effects and prevent re-occurrence in families where **maltreatment has** already occurred.



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Jordan Watson Vice President of Policy and Government Affairs jordan@texprotects.org



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