State of the State 2023 Annual Report

Summary report of fiscal year 2022 data



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 fiscal year 2022, 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.







KEY INSIGHTS

Families are not receiving the ongoing support they need Focus on prevention and early intervention programs to ensure there are supports within communities to keep families together safely

Most children are placed in foster or adoptive homes

High staff turnover can lead to unmanageable caseload sizes Transform and prioritize practices that result in a high-quality workforce across all positions up the career ladder





Evidence supports better outcomes for children placed in relative/kinship homes; prioritize placing children with relative caregivers





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 advocacy, research, partnerships, and public awareness.



Healing and Trauma-Informed Care



-Mission and Focus-

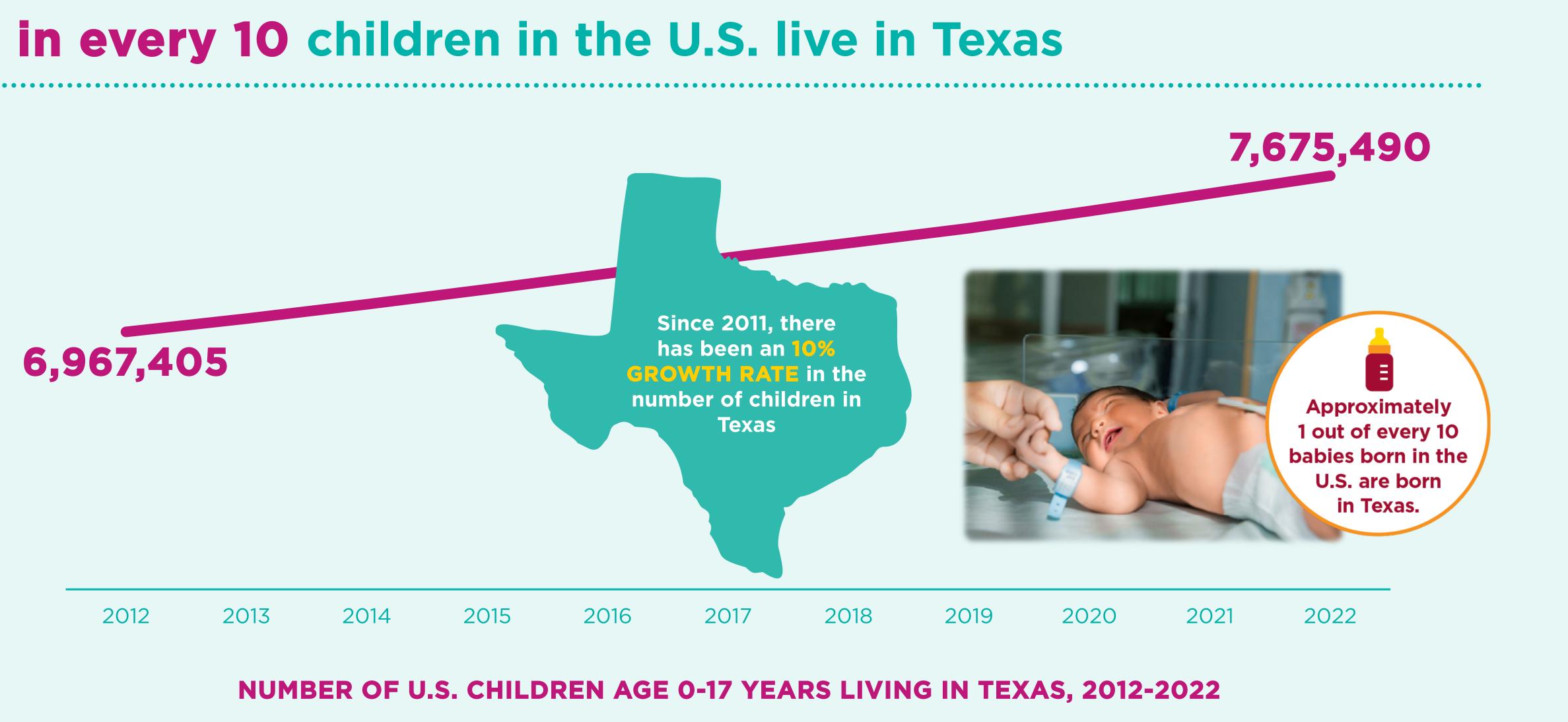
CHILD PROTECTION

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 2022 State of Texas' Babies Report, Texas ranked well in some areas and poorly in others...

9.8%

Women received late or no prenatal care

8.4%

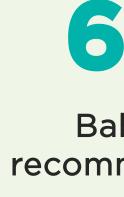
Infants born at low birthweight

Above national average Below national average

5.5 Infant deaths per 1,000 live births

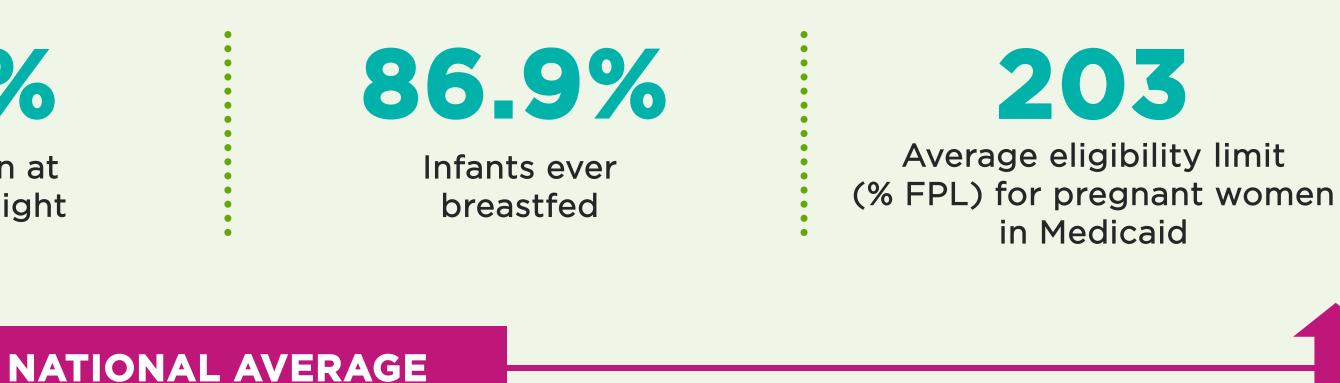
20.1%

Mothers reported less than optimal mental health



Source: Zero to Three, 2022 State of Babies Yearbook





69.1%

Babies received recommended vaccines 27.0% READING Daily parent-child interaction

48.6% SINGING Daily parent-child interaction

Signaling a need to scale up support services for families

8.3%

Low-income infants and toddlers were uninsured 40.9%

Babies received a developmental screening



5.2%

Families in poverty received TANF benefits 15.6%

Households with babies experienced low food insecurity



2.3% **Babies experienced** housing instability



Source: Zero to Three, 2022 State of Babies Yearbook

19.2 Rate of infant/toddler maltreatment

18.9%

Babies were living in crowded housing

NATIONAL AVERAGE

5.3%

Infants/toddlers received **IDEA Part C services** 53.3%

Infants/toddlers with mothers in the labor force

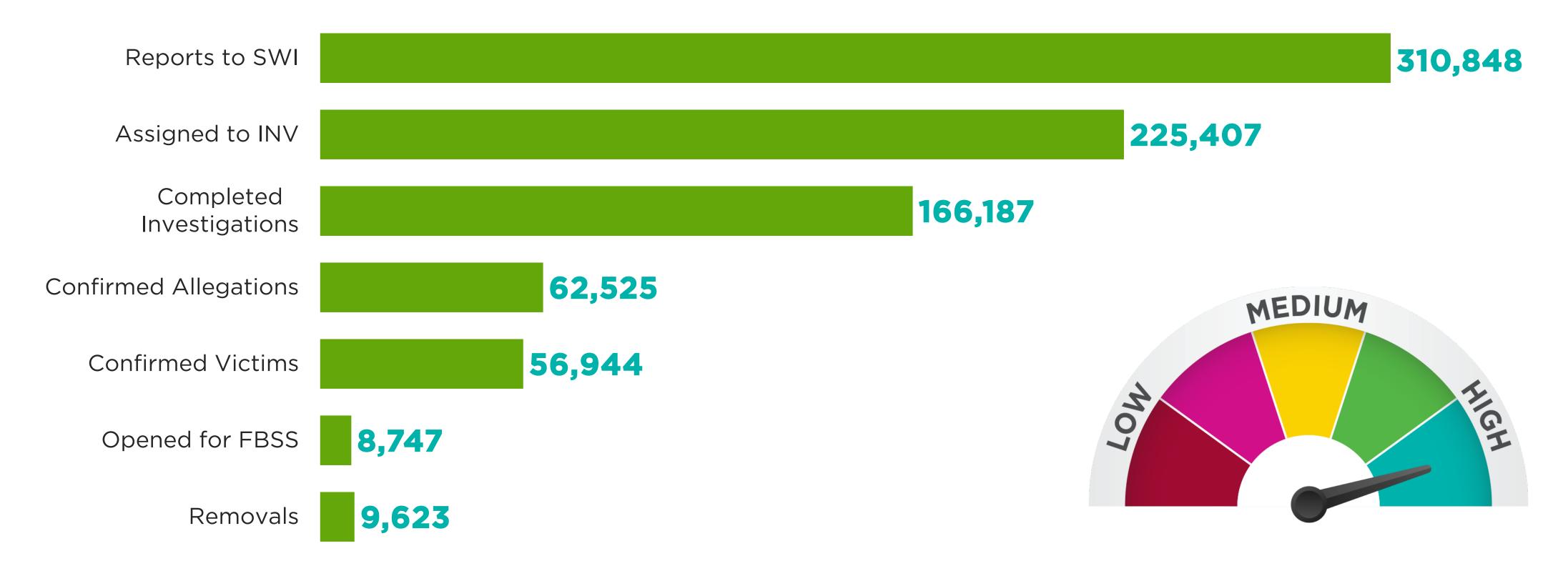


Overview of the Child Protection System in Texas



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 2022

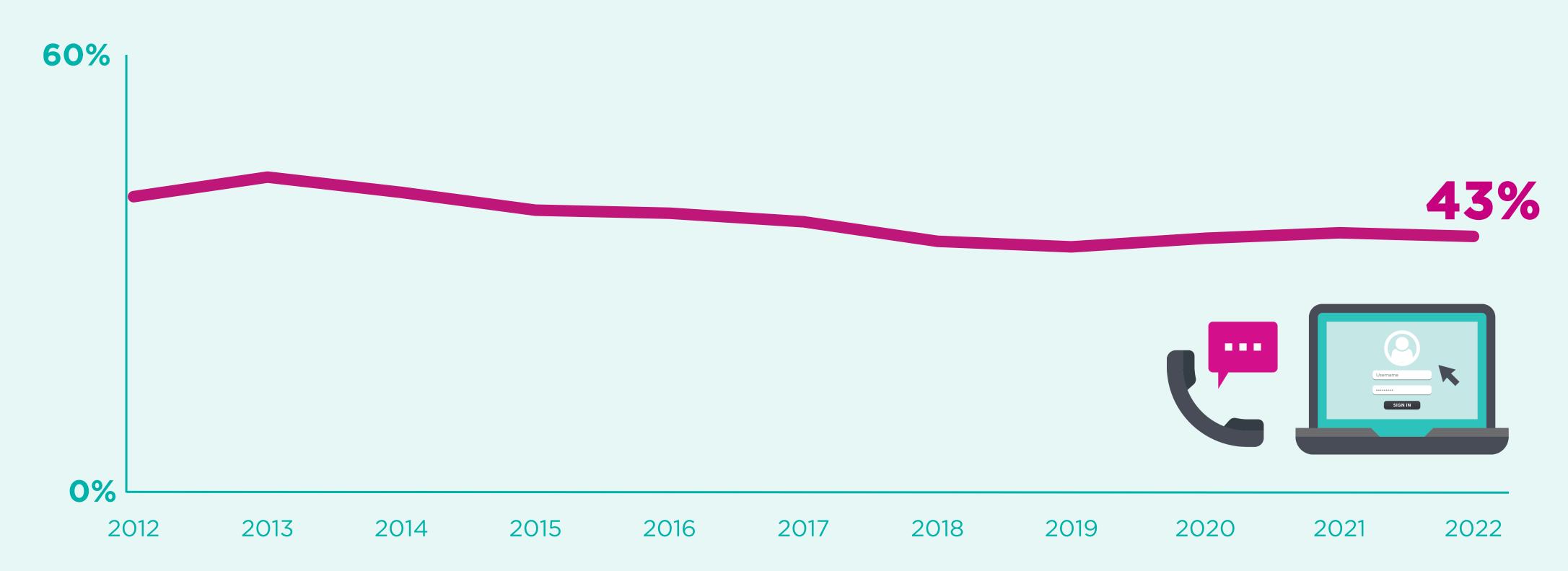


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPI Intakes: Priority, Screening, and Assignment; CPI Completed Abuse/Neglect Investigations: Activity; CPI Completed Investigations: Alleged and Confirmed Types of Abuse; CPI Completed Abuse/Neglect Investigations: Victims; Completed Child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



More than 4 in 10 statewide intake reports seek other support

PERCENT OF CALLS TO STATEWIDE INTAKE THAT ARE MADE FOR A REFERRAL TO SOMEWHERE IN THE COMMUNITY, 2012-2022

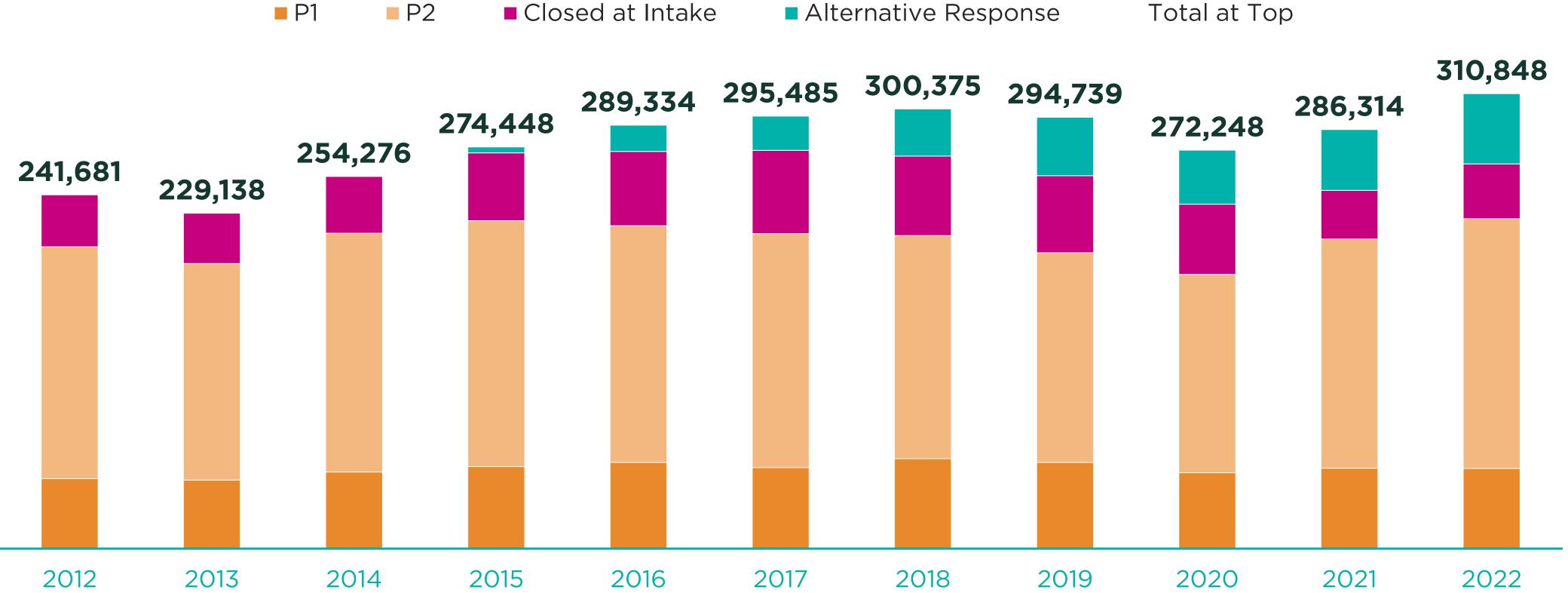


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Statewide Intake: Type of Contact and Method of Receipt



A large share of intakes result in an investigation

P1 **P**2 Closed at Intake



NUMBER OF STATEWIDE INTAKE REPORTS BY INTAKE DECISION, 2012-2022

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

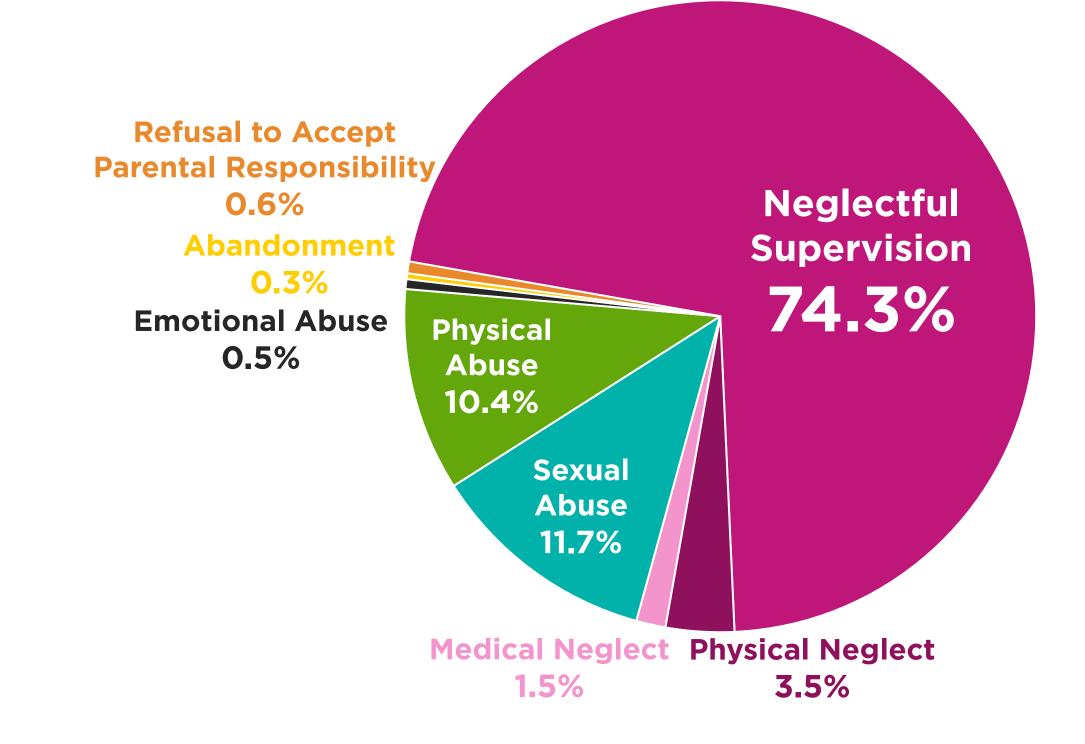




Most allegations confirmed by CPS are neglect and primarily occur with children ages 0-5

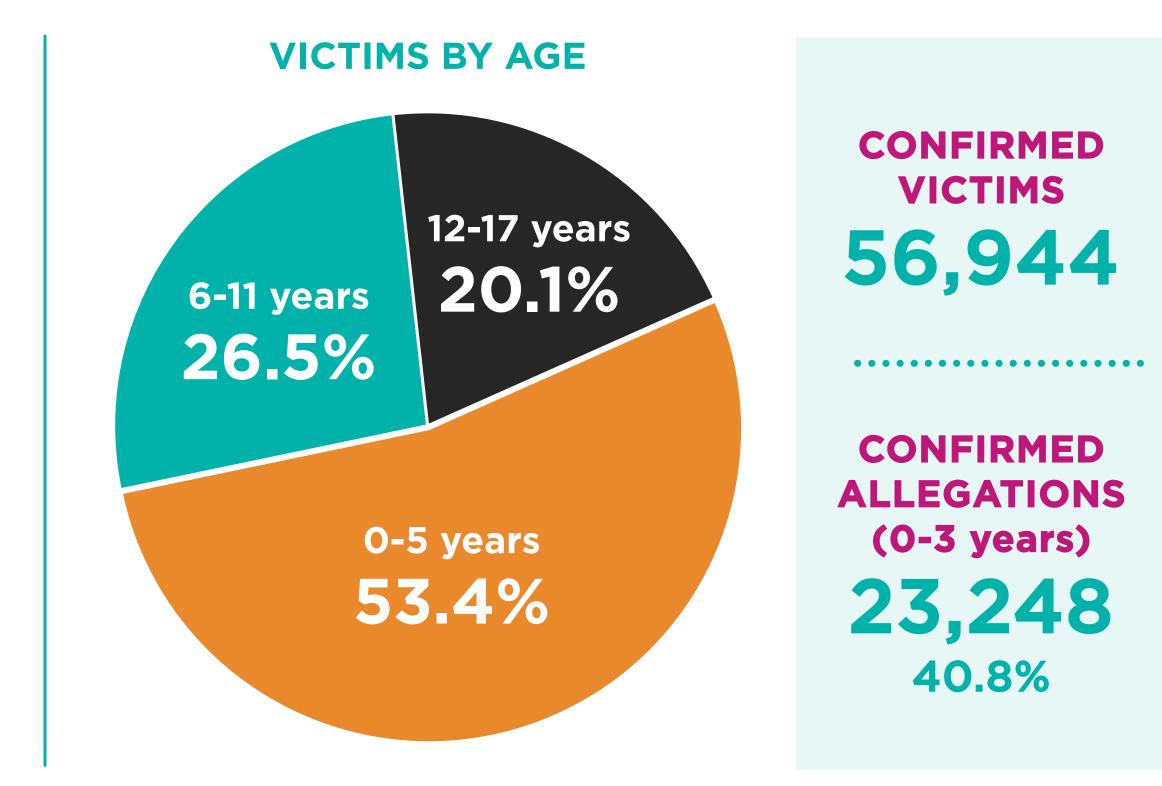
PERCENT OF CONFIRMED ALLEGATIONS BY TYPE OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND VICTIMES BY AGE IN 2022

TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT



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







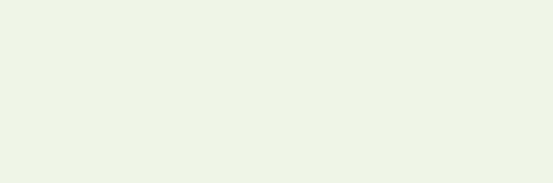
Families are not receiving the ongoing support they need

NUMBER OF FAMILIES REFERRED TO FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES, **JANUARY 2021-DECEMBER 2022**



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







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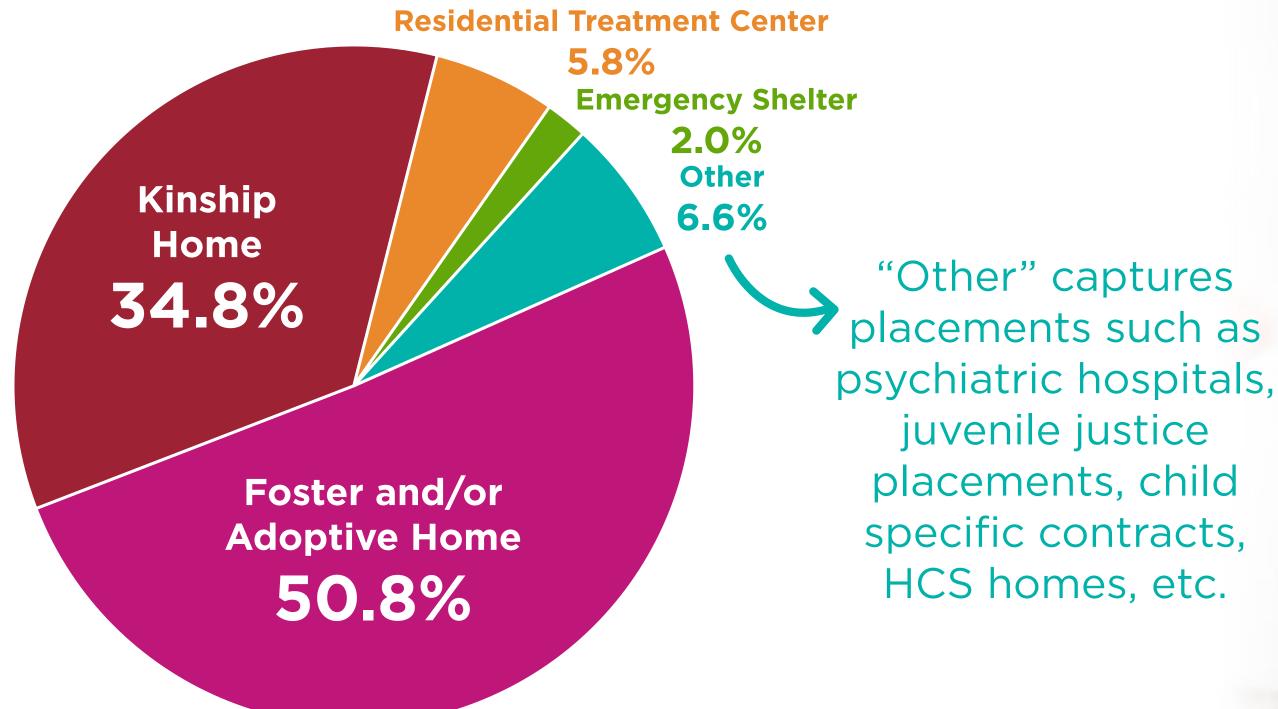
Mar	May	Jul	Sep	Nov
2022	2022	2022	2022	2022

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 8/31/2022



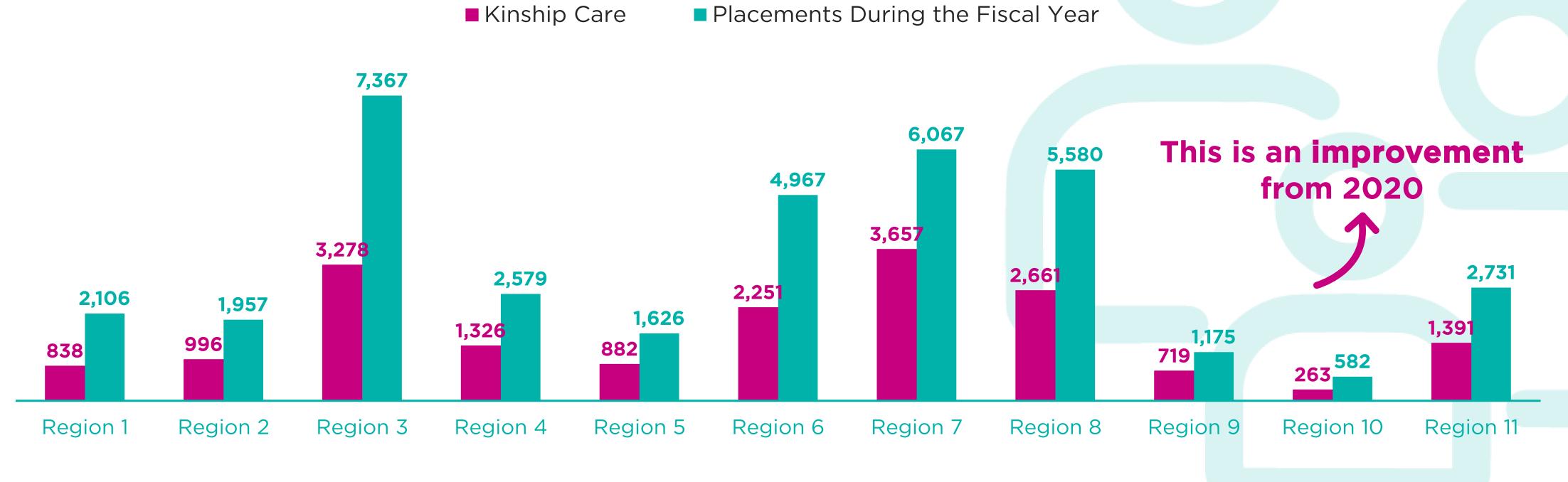
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children in DFPS Legal Responsibility during the Fiscal Year; CPS Placements: Children in Substitute Care on August 31





At least 40% of children in substitute care were placed in a kinship home in 2022

NUMBER OF CHILDREN PLACED IN KINSHIP CARE COMPARED TO **TOTAL NUMBER OF PLACEMENTS IN 2022, BY REGION**



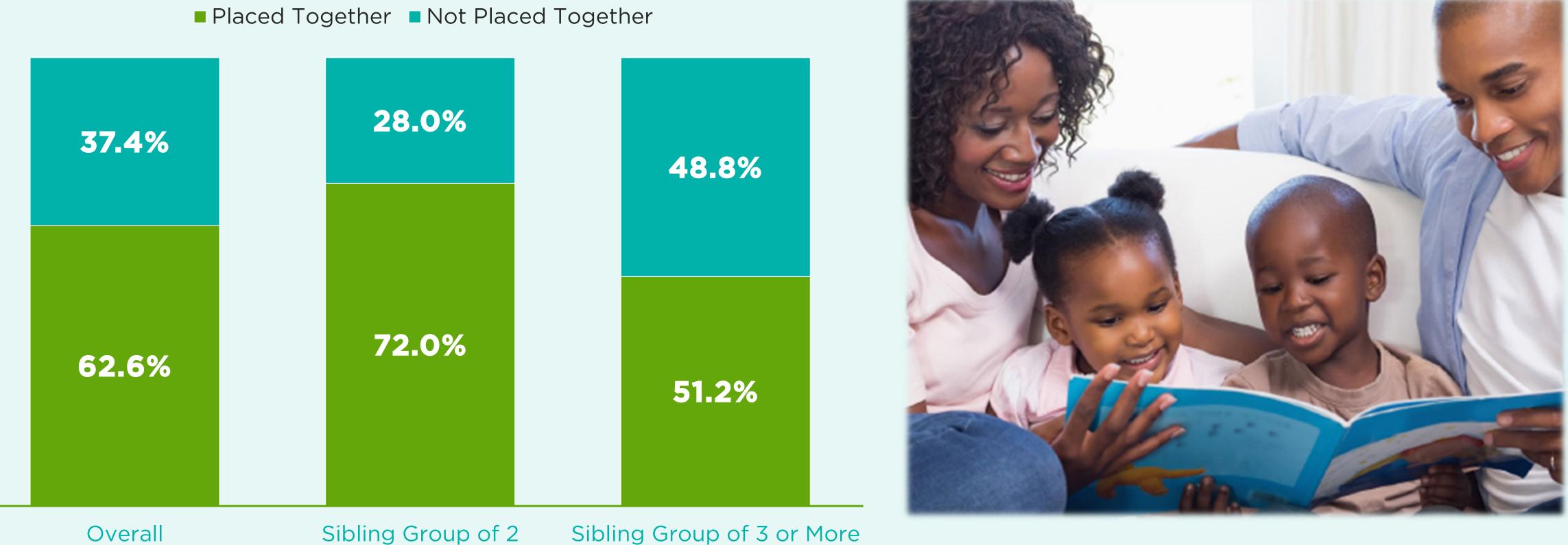
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Substitute Care: Placements During Fiscal Year





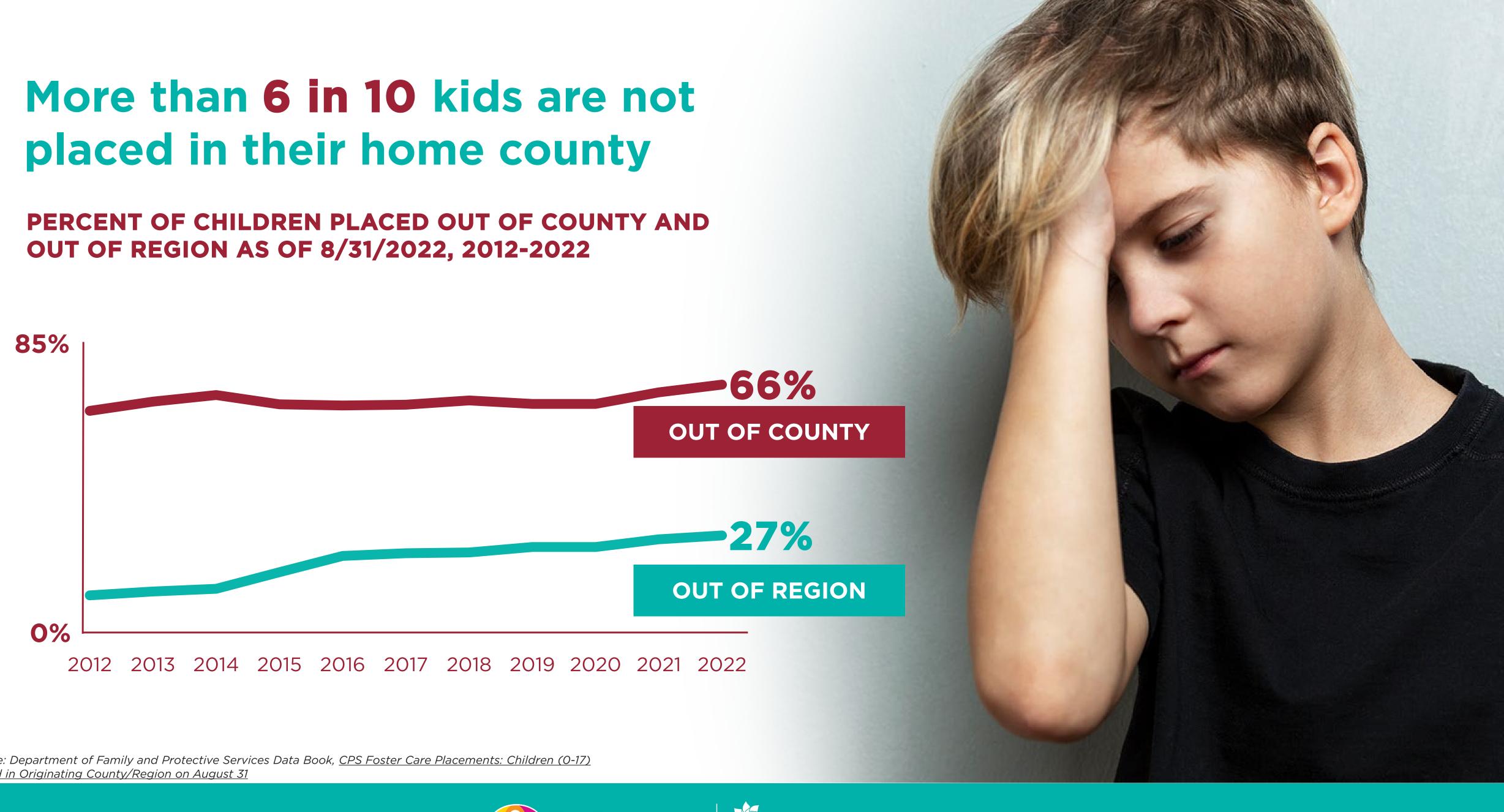
Nearly two-thirds of siblings are placed together

PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN SIBLING GROUPS PLACED TOGETHER AS OF 8/31/2022



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

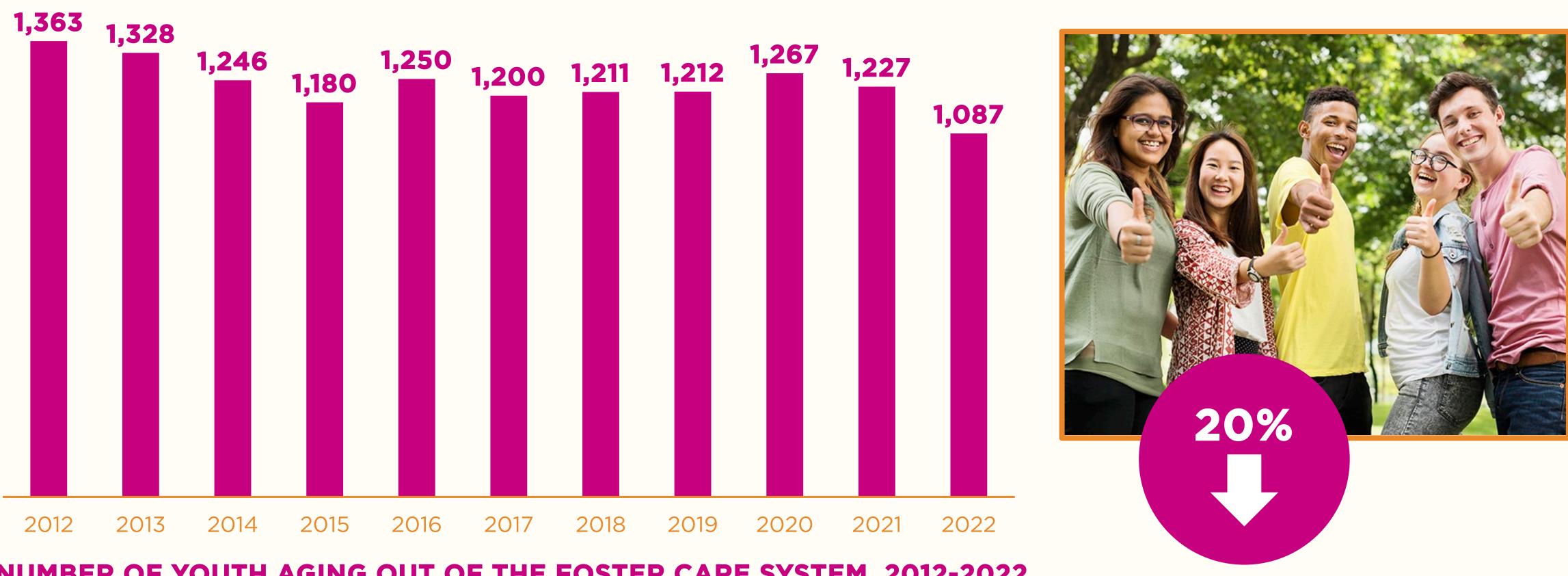




Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPS Foster Care Placements: Children (0-17) Placed in Originating County/Region on August 31



There has been a 20% drop in youth aging out since 2012

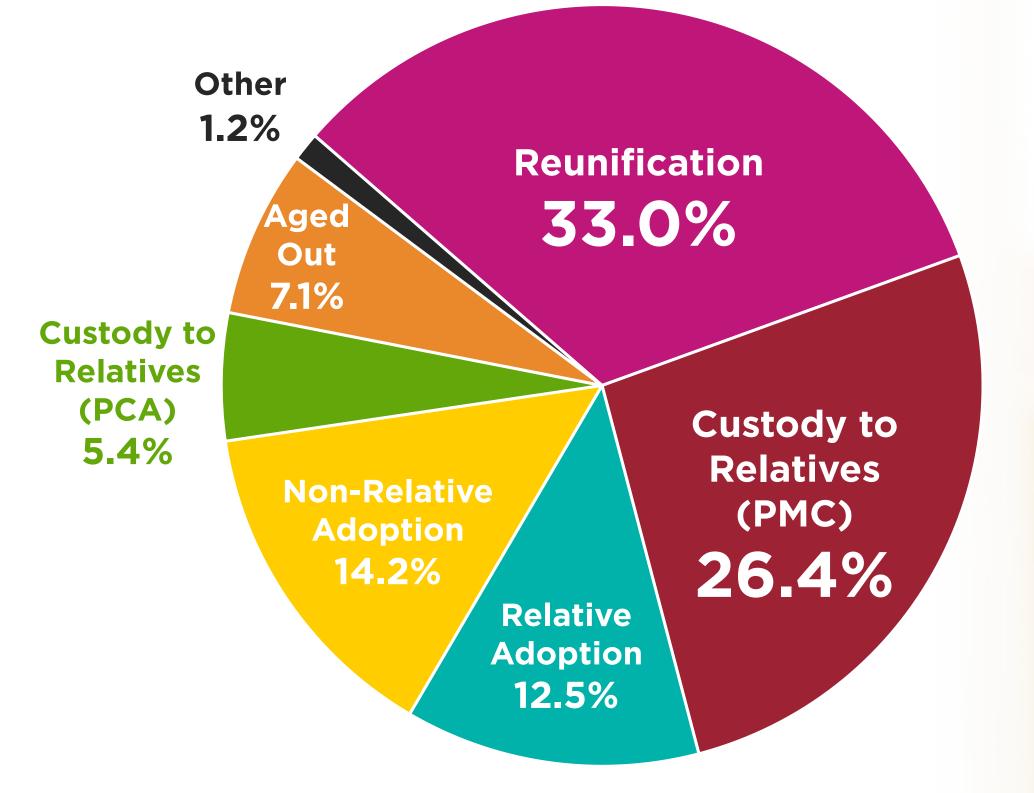


NUMBER OF YOUTH AGING OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM, 2012-2022

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



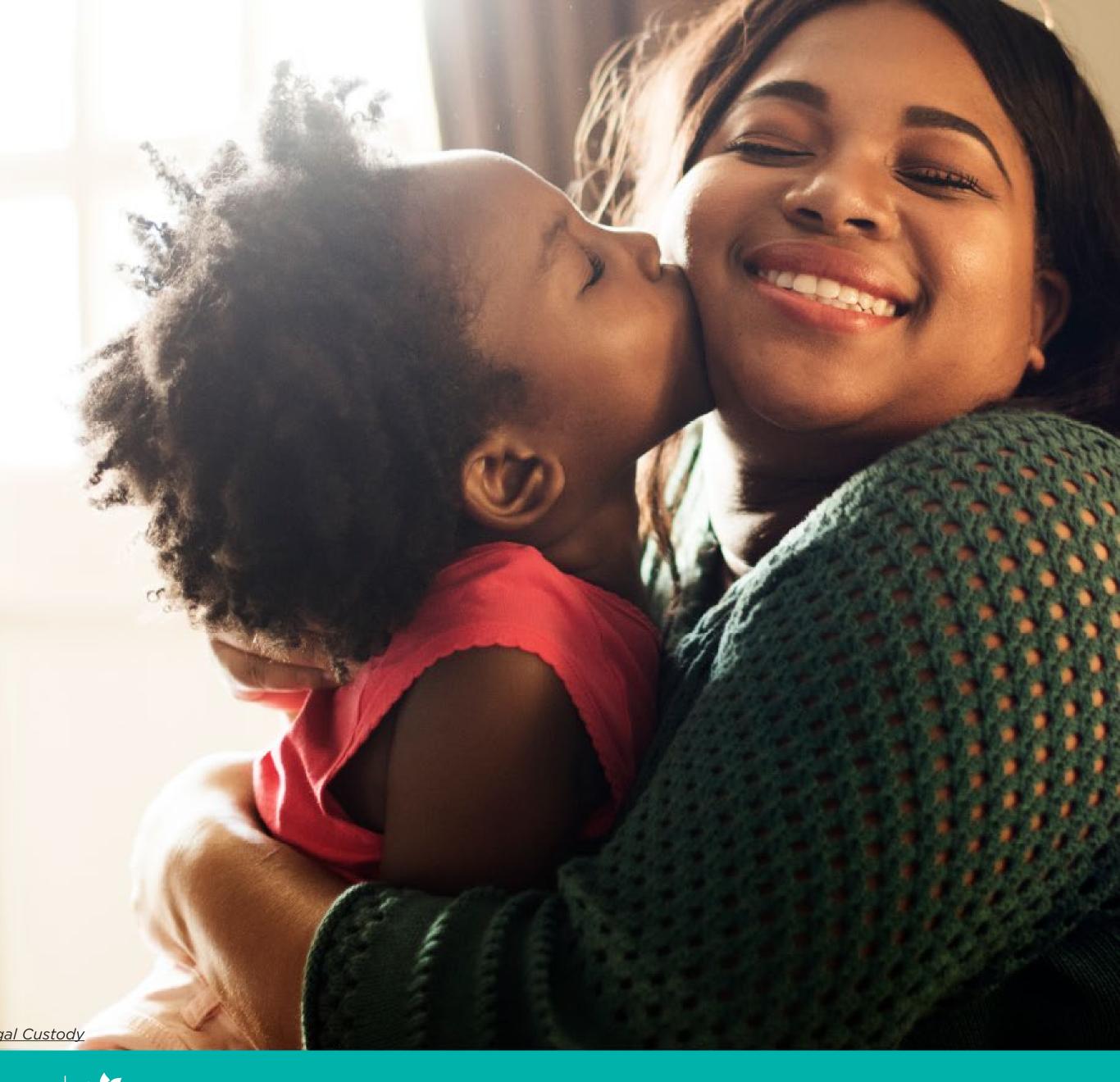
One-third of kids were **reunified** with their family



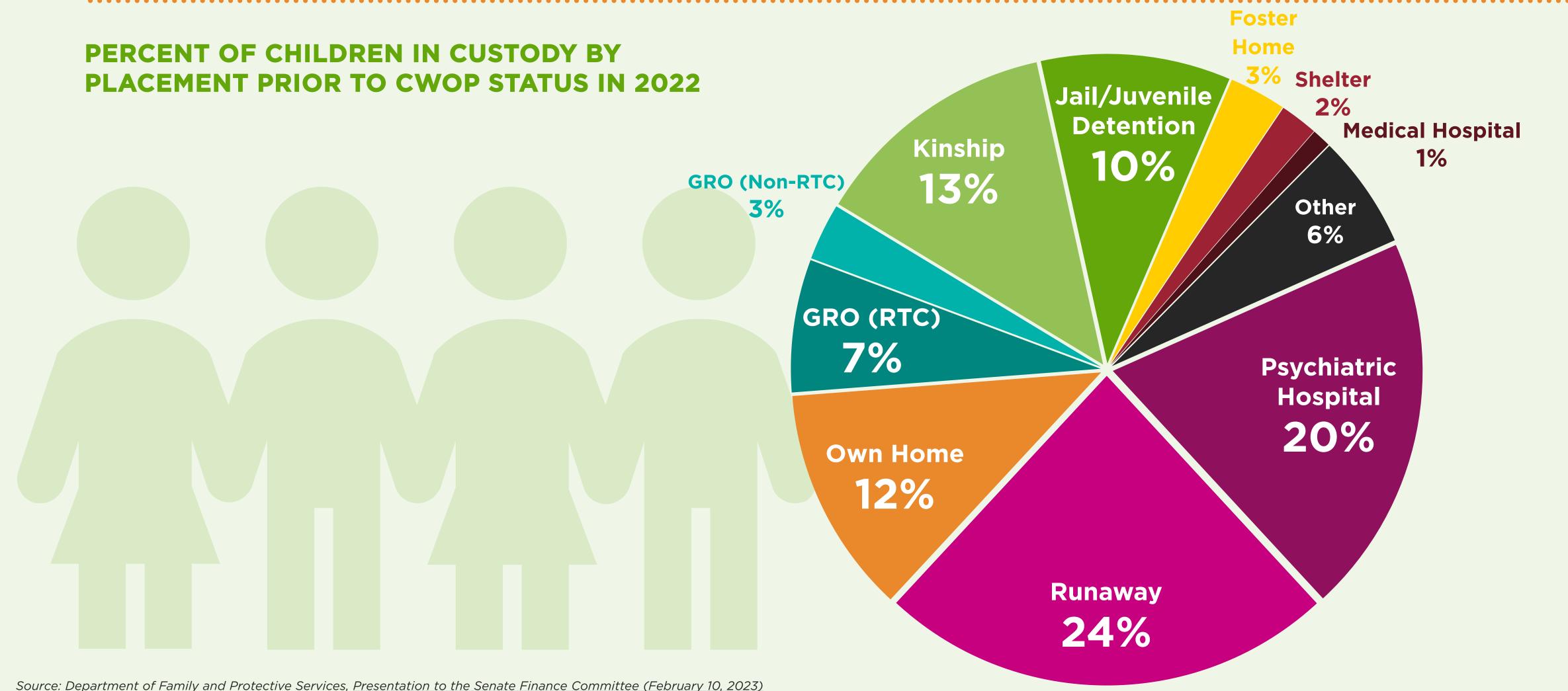
PERCENT OF CHILDREN EXITING DFPS LEGAL CUSTODY IN 2022, STATEWIDE

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





Children Without Placement (CWOP) came from different places



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services, Presentation to the Senate Finance Committee (February 10, 2023)

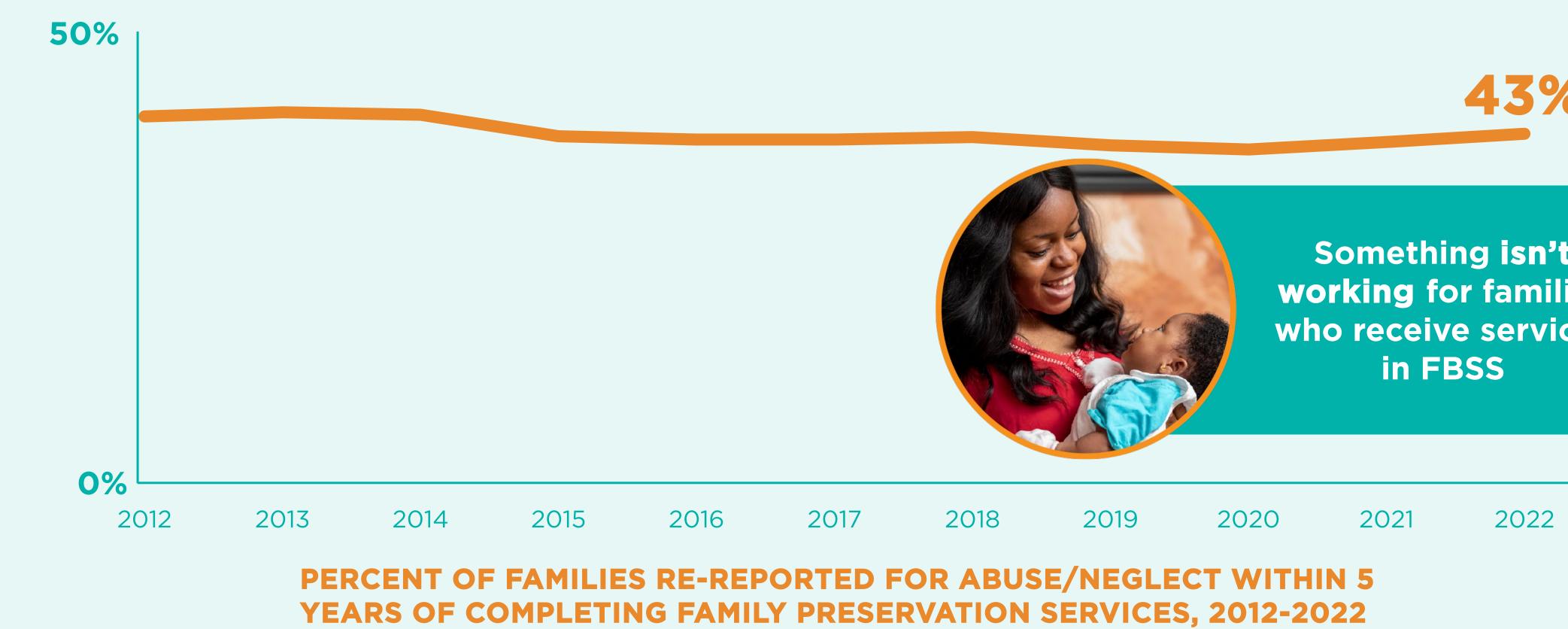




Texas Child Welfare Outcomes



Four 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



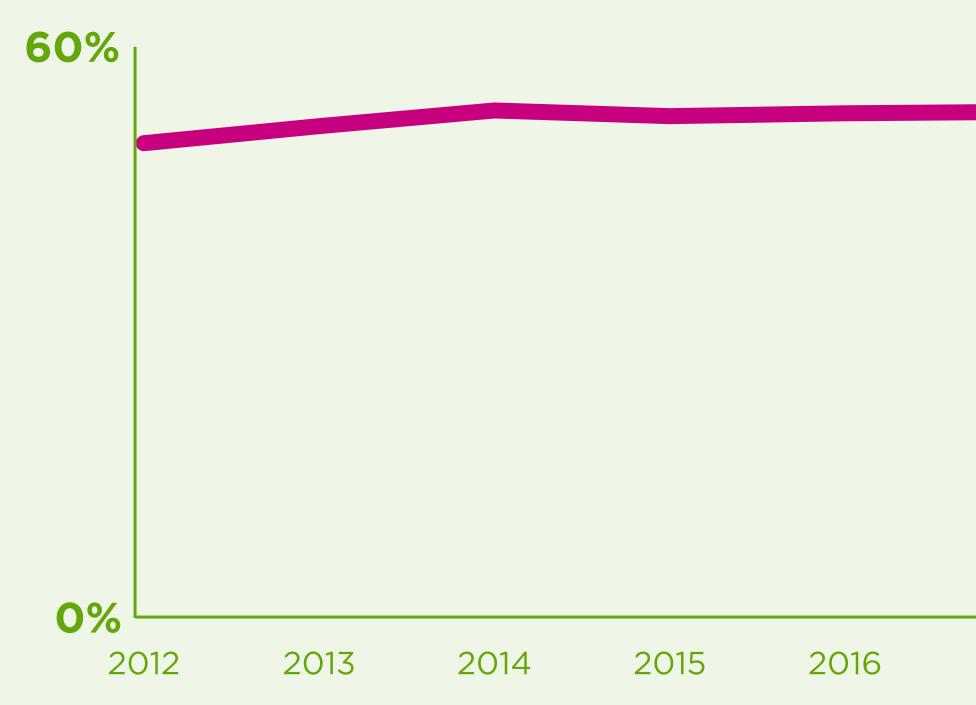




Something isn't working for families who receive services

Within 5 years of exiting DFPS custody, **nearly half** of the children are victims in another investigation

PERCENT OF RECURRENCE WITHIN 5 YEARS OF SERVICE FOR CHILDREN IN CUSTODY, 2012-2022



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



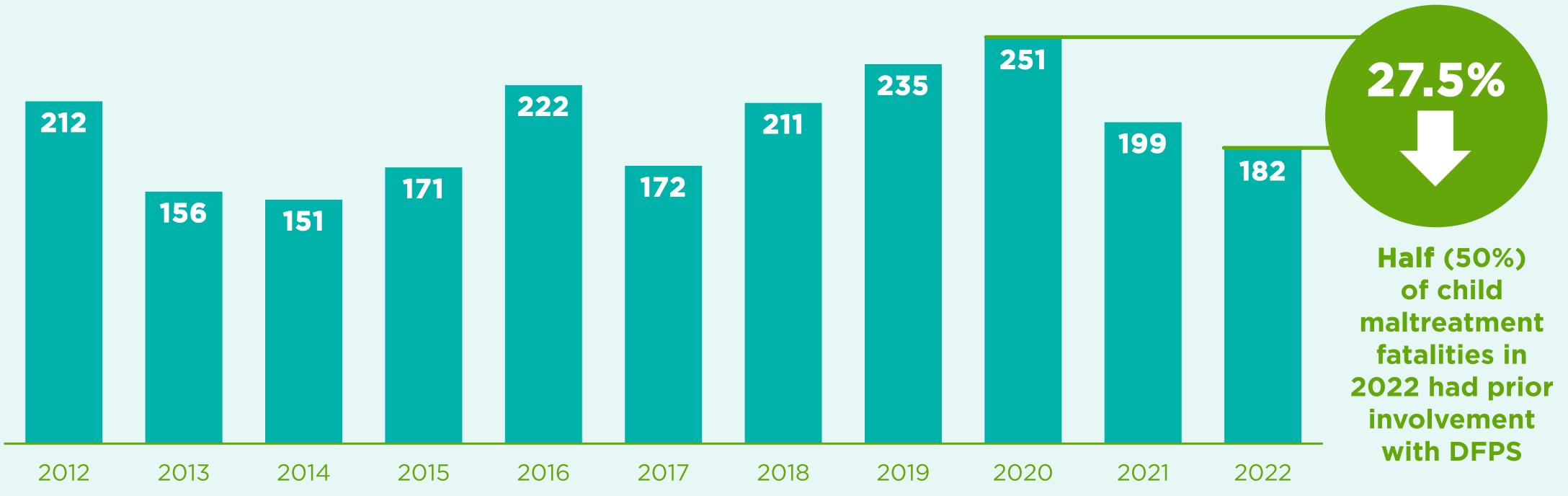
44.7%



2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022

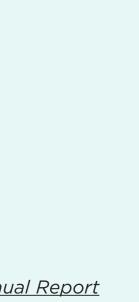
Child abuse and neglect related fatalities decreased nearly 30% from 2020 to 2022

NUMBER OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT RELATED FATALITIES, 2012-2022



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Texas Child Fatalities Annual Report





entered in 2022

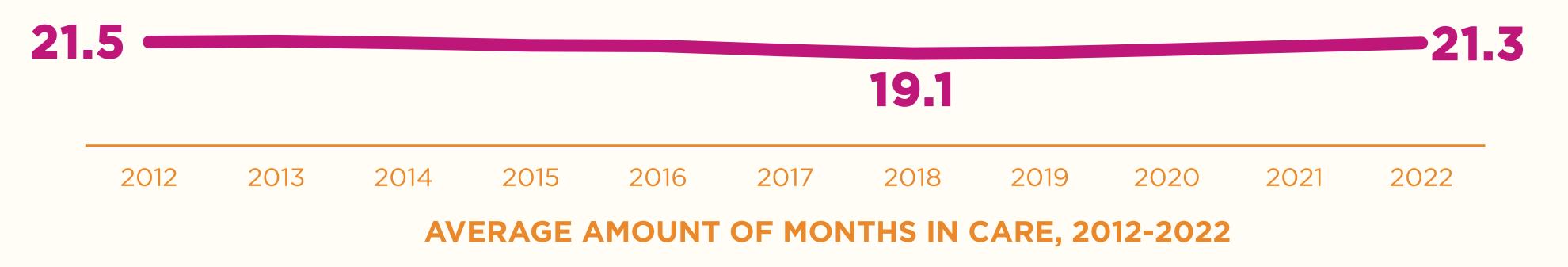


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Children Exiting DFPS Legal Custody; Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals



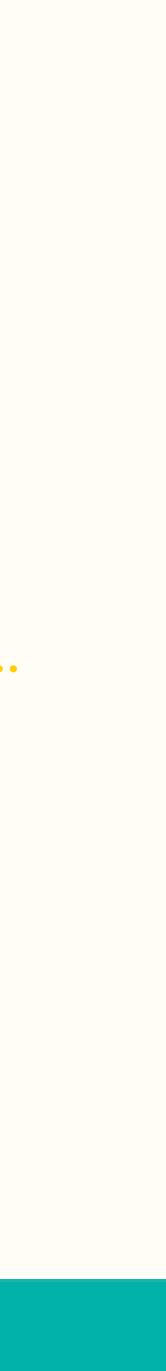


But the average time in care has increased since 2018

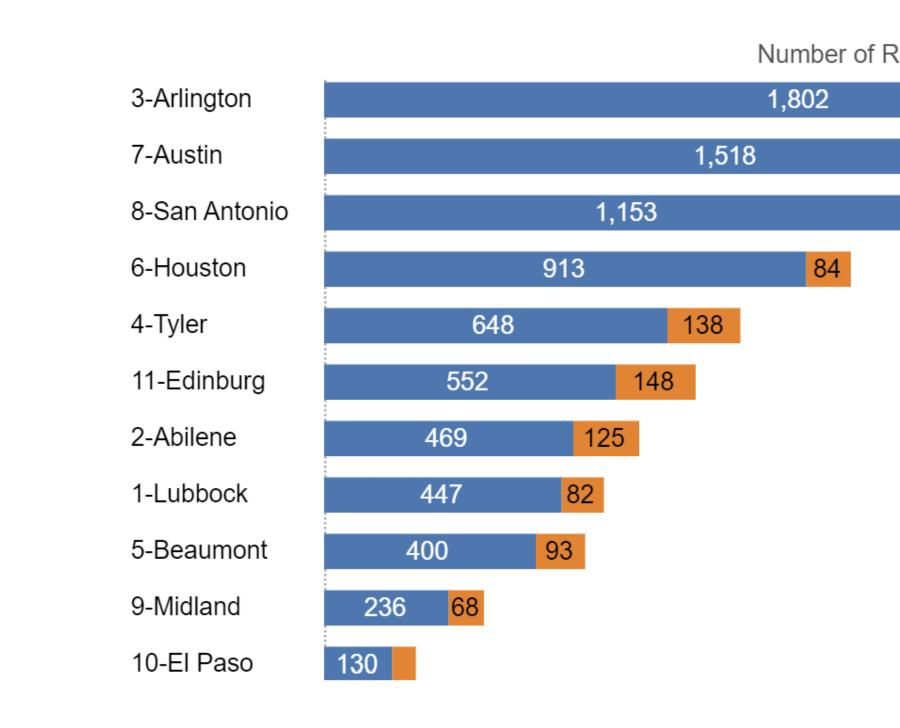


Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, <u>Child Protective Services (CPS): Children Exiting DFPS Legal Custody</u> Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, <u>Demographics of Children New in Substitute Care for Children Age 0-17</u>





Families experiencing removals are not receiving FBSS



NUMBER OF ANNUAL REMOVALS IN INVESTIGATIONS VERSUS FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES IN 2022, BY REGION

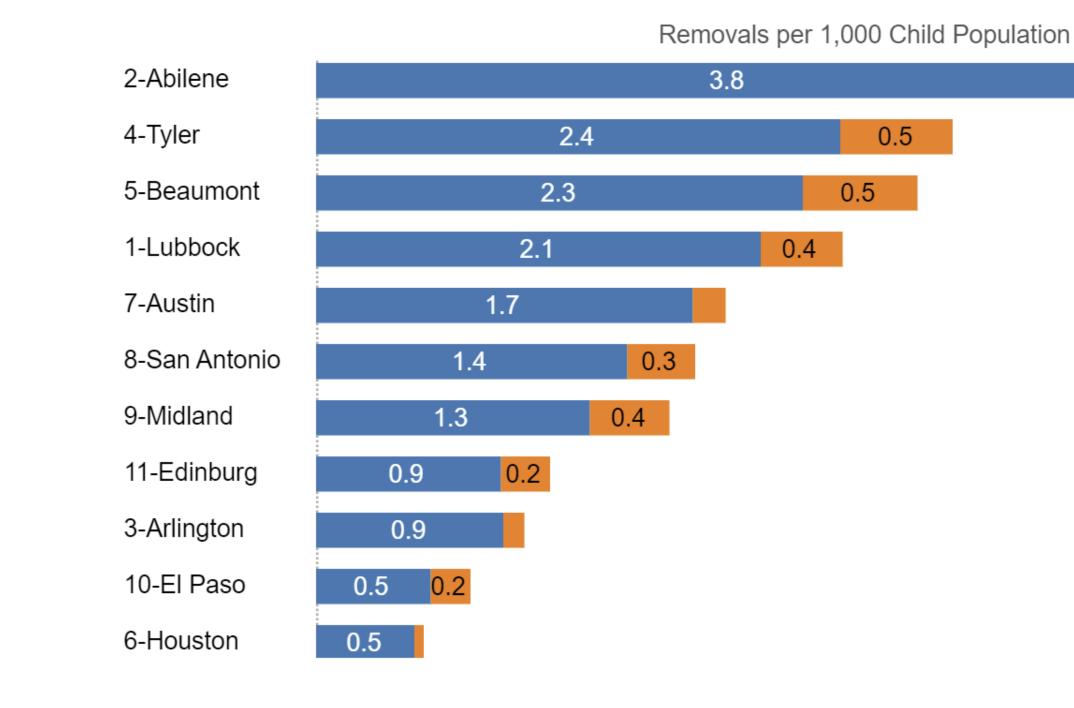
Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals



		183	Removal Stage	
	133		(All)	▼
256			Child Age	
			0	17
				D
			Child Gender	
			(All)	•
			Child Race/Ethnicity	
			(All)	•
			Investigation	
			Family Preservation	

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Families experiencing removals are not receiving FBSS



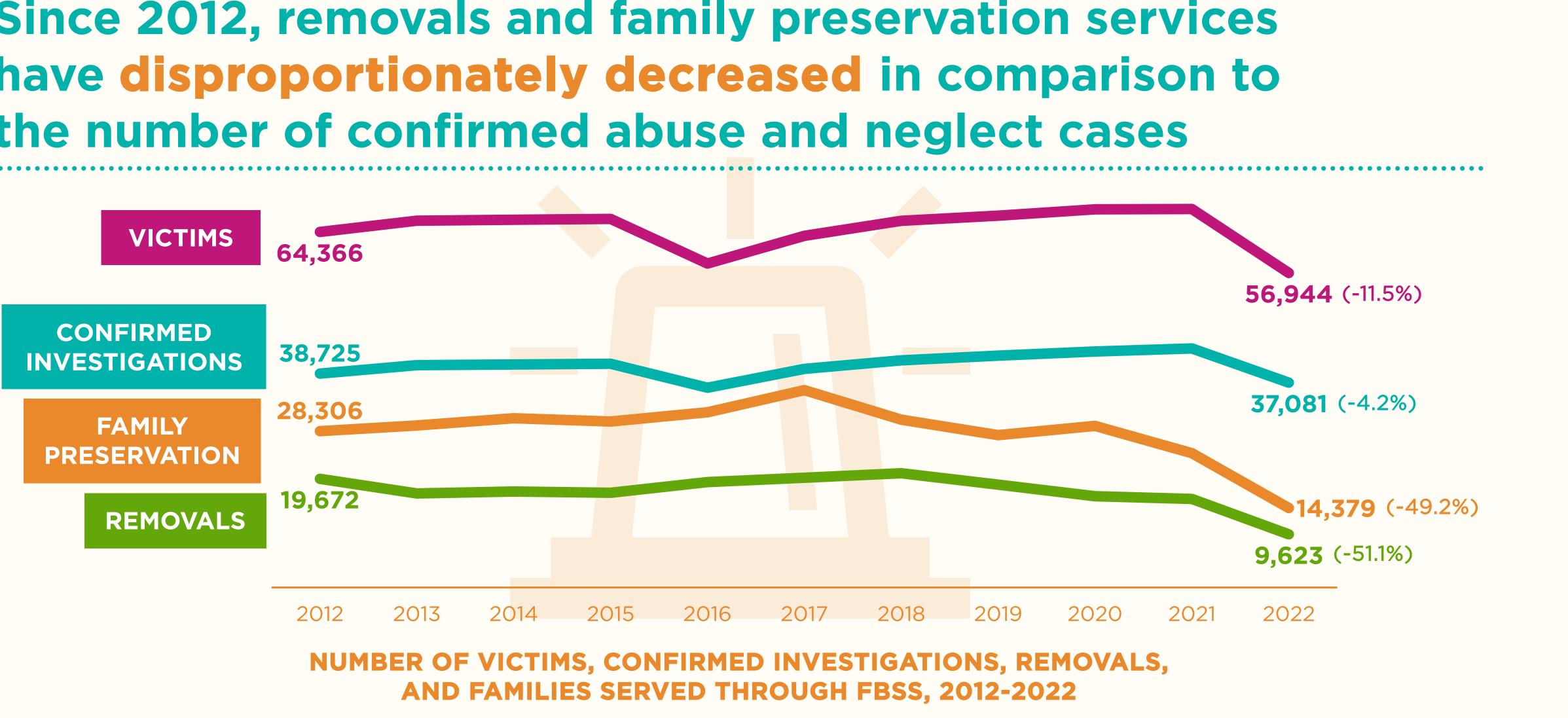
RATE OF ANNUAL REMOVALS IN INVESTIGATIONS VERSUS FAMILY-BASED SAFETY SERVICES IN 2022, BY REGION

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



	1.0	Removal Stage	
.5		(All)	•
		Child Age	
		0	17
		Child Gender	
		(All)	•
		Child Race/Ethnicity	
		(All)	•
		Investigation	
		Family Preservation	

Since 2012, removals and family preservation services have disproportionately decreased in comparison to the number of confirmed abuse and neglect cases



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Data Book, CPI Completed Abuse/Neglect Investigations: Findings; Child Protective Services (CPS): Removals; CPS Family Preservation: Families Served



() Outcome Measu ederal FO T M a

OUTCOME 1: Reduce recurrence of child a

Measure 1.1: Of all children who were victims of substantiated or indicated child abuse and/or neg during the first 6 months of the year, what percen had another substantiated or indicated report with 6-month period?

OUTCOME 2: Reduce the incidence of child

Measure 2.1: Of all children who were in foster ca during the year, what percentage were the subject substantiated or indicated maltreatment by a foster parent or facility staff?

OUTCOME 3: Increase permanency for chil

Measure 3.1: Of all children who exited foster ca during the year, what percentage left either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Measure 3.2: Of all children who exited foster ca during the year and were identified as having a diagnosed disability, what percentage <u>left</u> either to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship?

Measure 3.3: Of all children who exited foster ca during the year and were older than age 12 at the of their most recent entry into care, what percenta left to reunification, adoption, or legal guardianship

Measure 3.4: Of all children exiting foster care during the year to emancipation, what percentage were age 12 or younger at the time of entry into care?

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Child Welfare Outcomes 2019: Report to Congress



	PROGRESS 2015-2019	TX 2019	FEDERAL MEDIAN	TX COMPARED TO FEDERAL MEDIAN				
abuse and/or neglect								
of eglect entage thin a	7.3% BETTER	2.6%	5.2%	BETTER				
ld abuse	ld abuse and/or neglect in foster care							
care ect of ster	-18.3% WORSE	0.24%	0.26%	COMPARABLE				
ildren in foster care								
are	0.6% NO MAJOR CHANGE	93.5%	90.2%	BETTER				
are to	2.3% BETTER	80.7%	83.2%	WORSE				
are ne time tage hip?	-0.1% NO MAJOR CHANGE	63.0%	64.0%	WORSE				
ge	-22.2% WORSE	24.6%	15.0%	WORSE				

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OUTCOME 4: Reduce time in foster care to

Measure 4.1: Of all children reunified with their parents or caretakers at the time of discharge from foster care during the year, what percentage were reunified less than 12 months from the time of en into foster care?

Measure 4.2: Of all children who entered foster of during the year, what percentage reentered care 12 months of a prior foster care episode?

OUTCOME 5: Reduce time in foster care to

Measure 5.1: Of all children discharged from fost care during the year to a finalized adoption, what percentage exited care less than

(a) 12 months from the time of latest removal from home

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

OUTCOME 6: Increase placement stability

Measure 6.1: Of all children served in foster care during the year who had been in care for the time periods listed below, what percentage had no mothan two placements within

(a) 12 months from the time of latest removal from

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

(c) At least 24 months but less than 36 months

OUTCOME 7: Reduce placements of young

Measure 7.1: Of all children who entered foster of during the year and were age 12 or younger at the of their most recent placement, what percentage placed in a group home or an institution?

Source: US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families, Child Welfare Outcomes 2019: Report to Congress



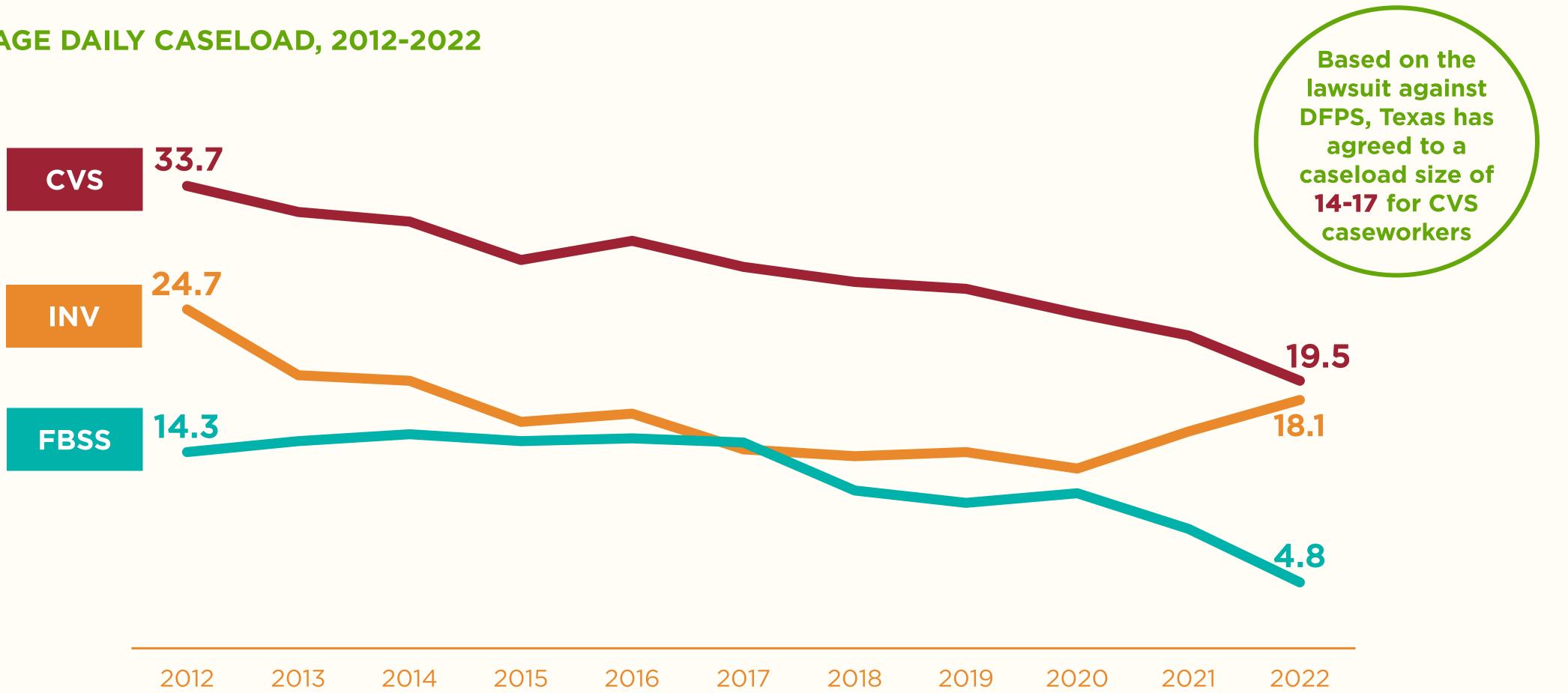
	PROGRESS 2015-2019	TX 2019	FEDERAL MEDIAN	TX COMPARED TO FEDERAL MEDIAN			
o reunification without increasing reentry							
om ere entry	-3.0% WORSE	48.8%	63.0%	WORSE			
care e within	34.3% BETTER	3.6%	7.4%	BETTER			
o adopti	on						
ster at om	-33.0% WORSE	2.7%	3.1%	COMPARABLE			
	4.5% BETTER	52.6%	27.3%	BETTER			
/							
re ne nore om home	-1.5% WORSE	82.8%	83.0%	COMPARABLE			
	-2.8% WORSE	56.2%	64.8%	BETTER			
	-5.0% WORSE	21.7%	40.4%	BETTER			
g children in group homes or institutions							
care he time e were	-27.5% WORSE	4.9%	2.9%	WORSE			

Texas Child Protection System Workforce



Decreased caseloads increase safety outcomes for kids

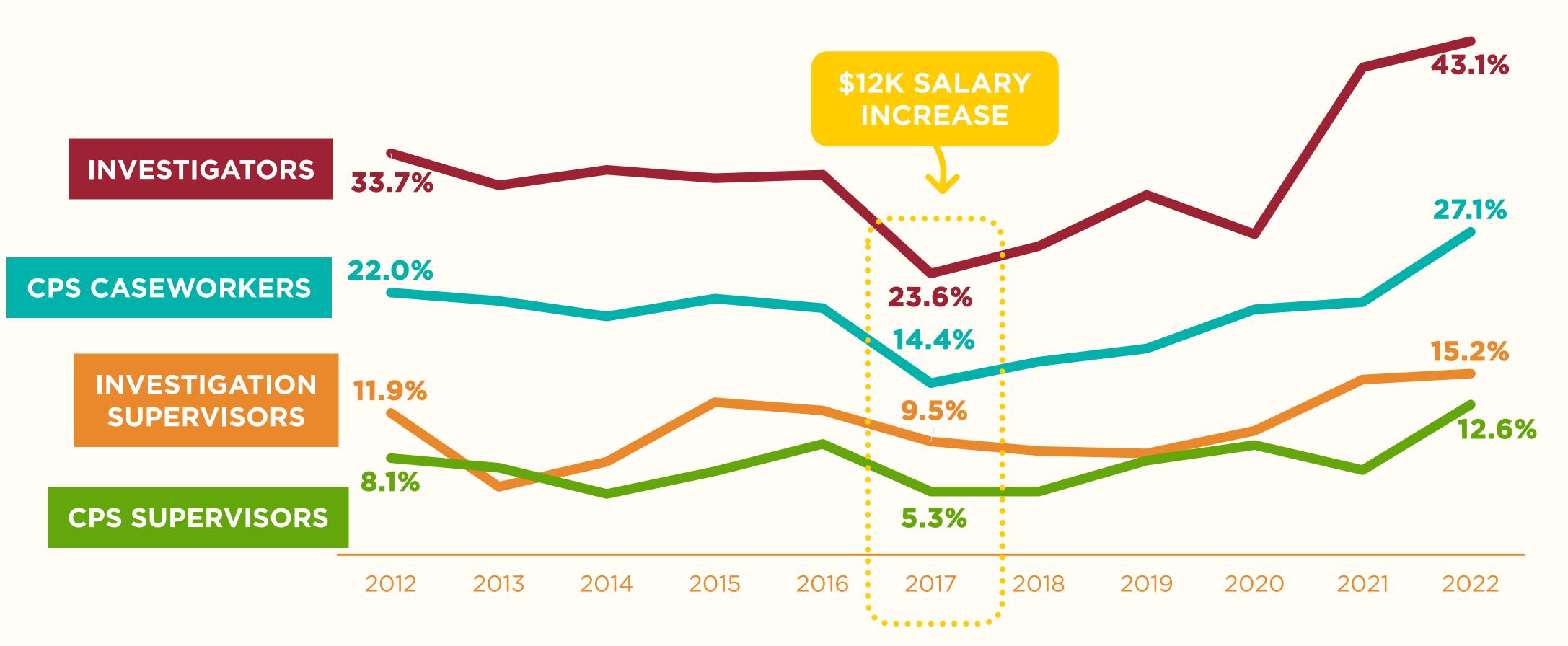
AVERAGE DAILY CASELOAD, 2012-2022



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



PERCENT OF ANNUAL WORKFORCE TURNOVER, 2012-2022

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 experience...



Learning problems, including lower grades and more suspensions and expulsions

Increased use of health services, including mental health services

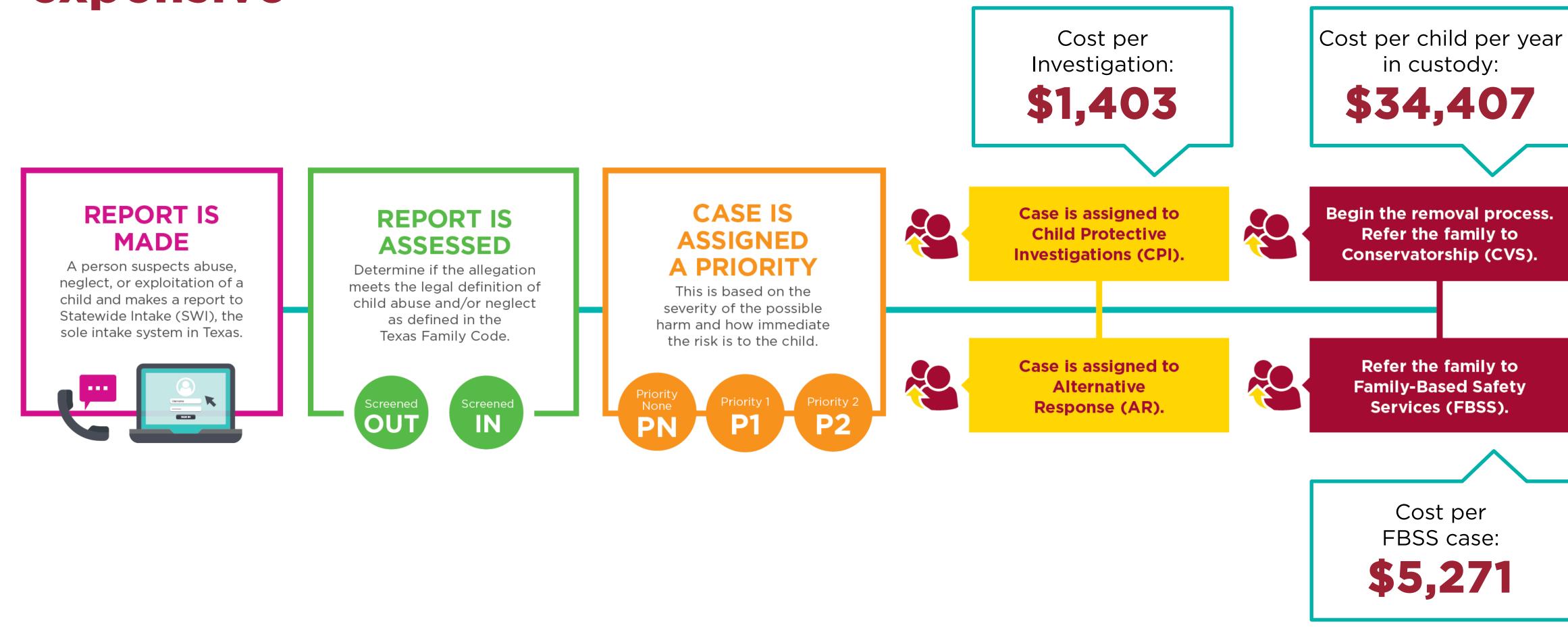
Source: US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Recognizing and Treating Child Traumatic Stress



Increased involvement with the child welfare and juvenile justice systems Long term health problems, such as diabetes and heart disease



As a case flows further into the system, it becomes more expensive



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services Prevention and Early Intervention, 2018 Prevention Task Force Report





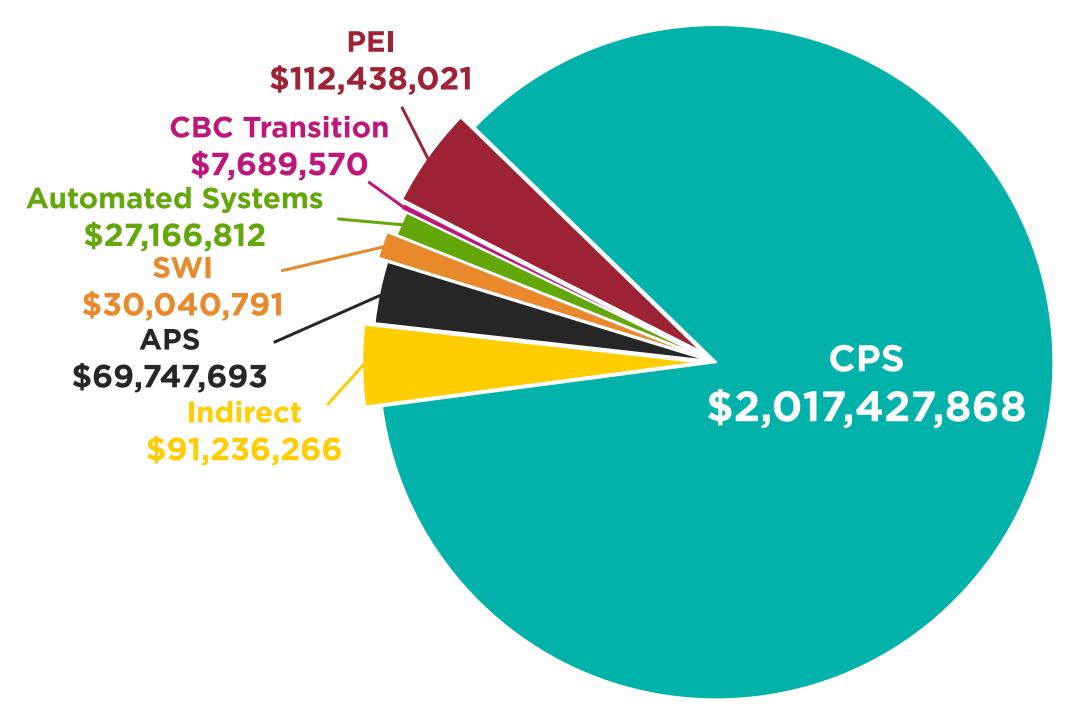






About 5% of Texas' DFPS budget is spent on prevention and early intervention programs in comparison to 86% **for Child Protective Services**

TEXAS PREVENTION BUDGET VERSUS CHILD PROTECTIVE BUDGET APPROVED FOR 2022

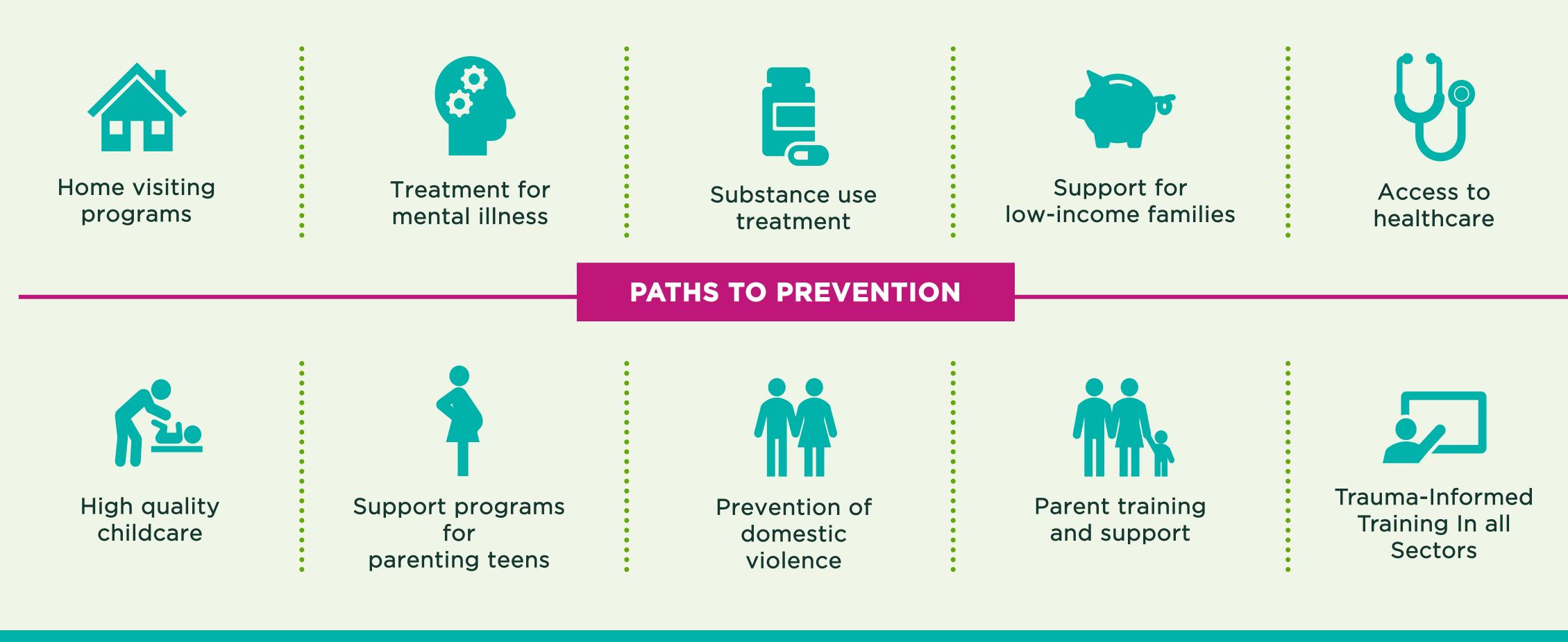


Source: Texas Legislative Budget Board Conference Committee Report, General Appropriations Act for the 2022-2023 Biennium



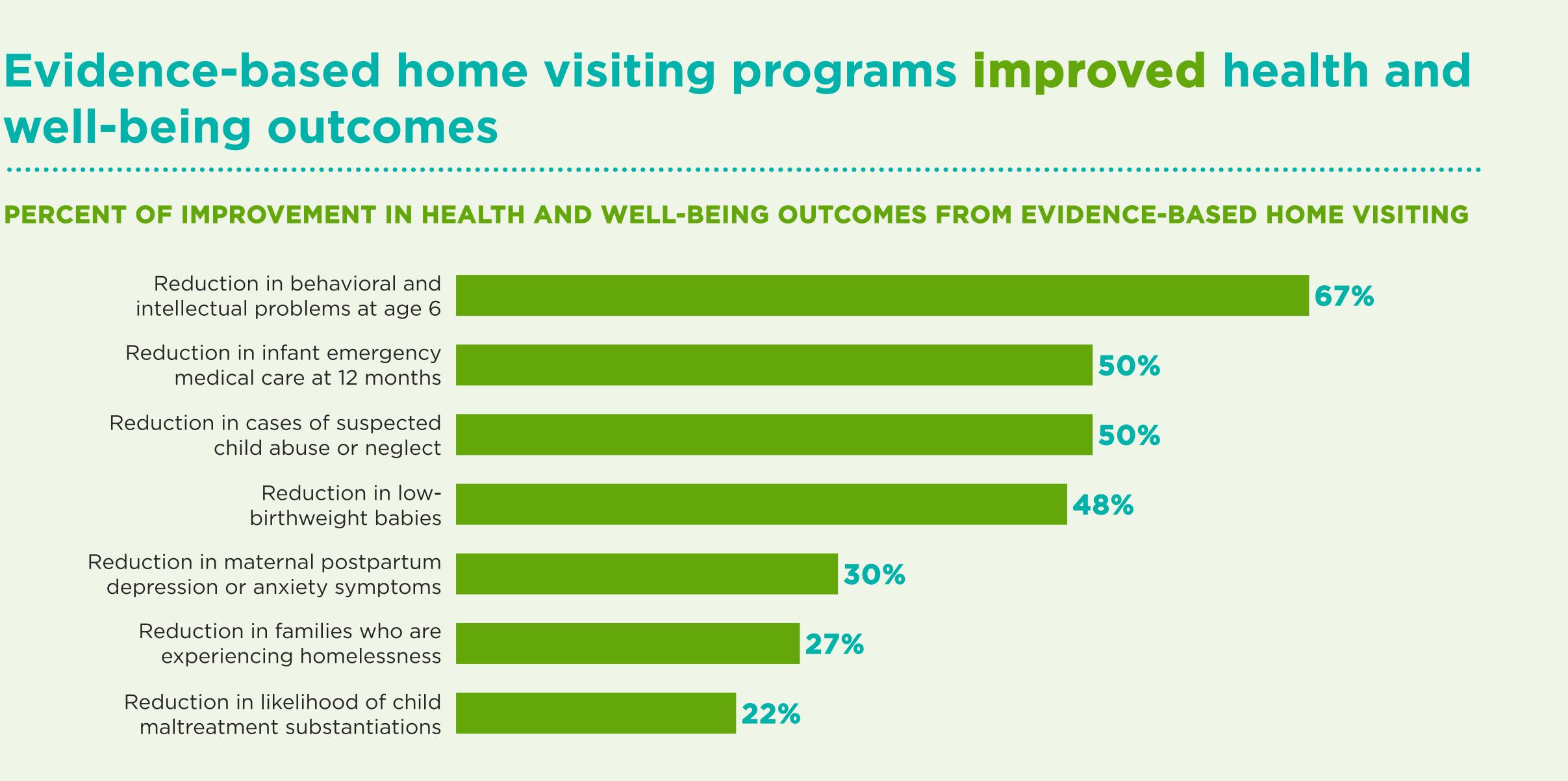


The early support of a caring adult can build a child's resiliency and prevent/mitigate the damaging effects of stress responses





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



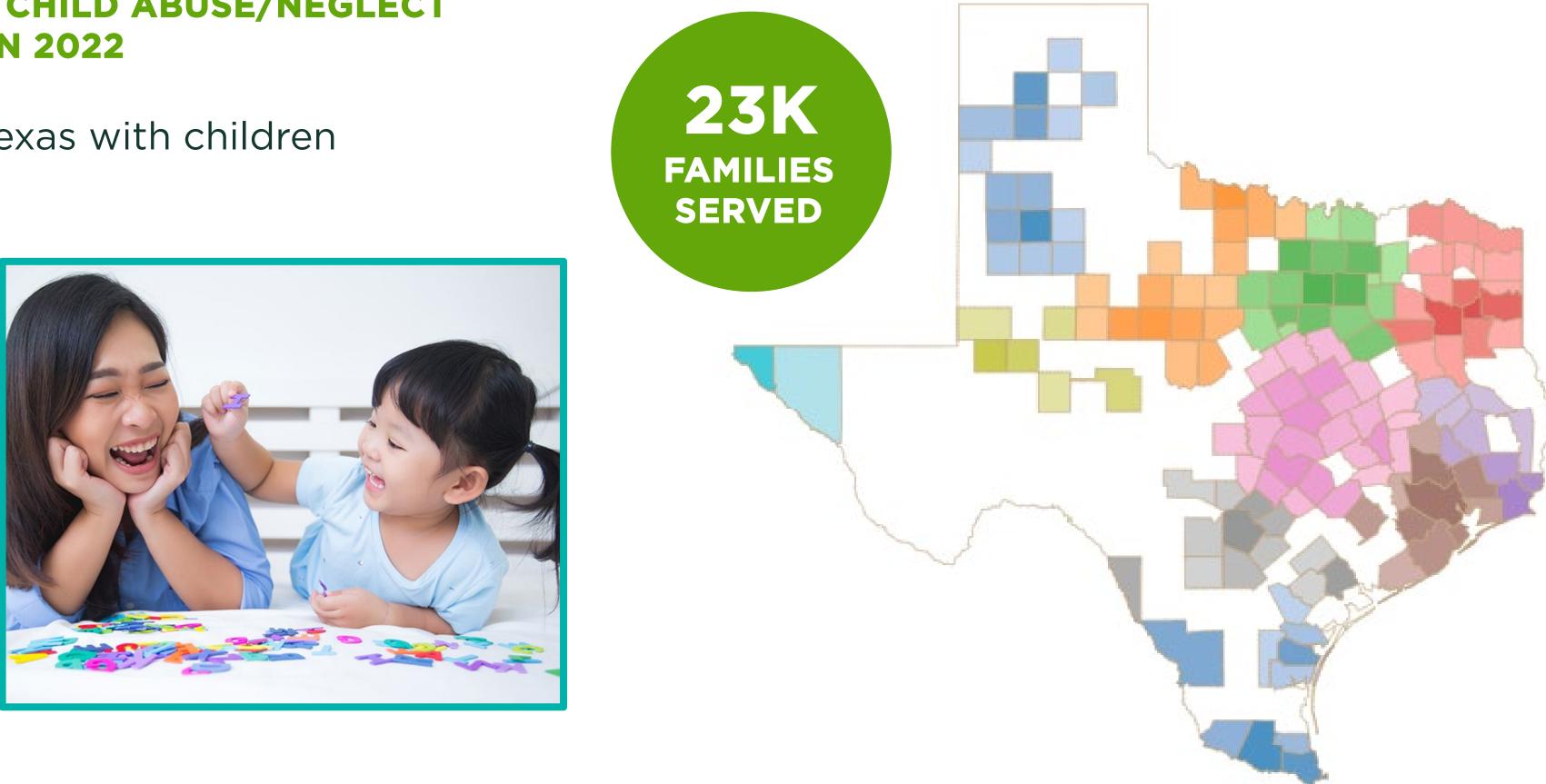
Source: Healthy Families America; Parents as Teachers; Family Connects; Nurse Family Partnership



Who has access to these prevention services?

FAMILIES SERVED IN DFPS CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT PREVENTION PROGRAMS IN 2022

- **1.7 million** families in Texas with children under age 6
- 870,750 of these families may benefit from Home Visiting services*
- Less than **3%** of families who could benefit from Home Visiting receive it



Map Source: Department of Family and Protective Services <u>Prevention and Early Intervention: Families Served in Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Programs</u> Data Source: National Home Visiting Resource Center, <u>2022 Texas State Profile</u> (*share of families who met one or more priority criteria)





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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