



Evidence-Based Programs to Reduce Child Maltreatment

Legislative Health and Human Services Committee
May 23, 2014

Charles Sallee, Deputy Director LFC
Dr. Jon Courtney, Program Evaluator LFC

Overview

- ▶ We will examine the cost of child maltreatment.
- ▶ We will look at the current situation of the child welfare system performance in New Mexico.
- ▶ We will examine what works to reduce poor outcomes for children and families based on the best research available.

Cost of Child Maltreatment (\$113 million)

Protective Services Administrative Overhead: \$27 Million

Includes administrative staff, training, travel, rent and other capital costs

*Note totals do not include domestic violence contracts or grants to tribes.

Prevention Services

- **\$0.9 million**
- CYFD is contracting services with Triple P and Parents as Teachers to serve 400 children

Intake and Investigation

- **\$11.3 million**
- 33,000 reports and 18,000 investigations of abuse and neglect

Intervention Services

- **\$7.4 million**
- In-Home Services serves around 2,000 children per year.

Foster Care Services

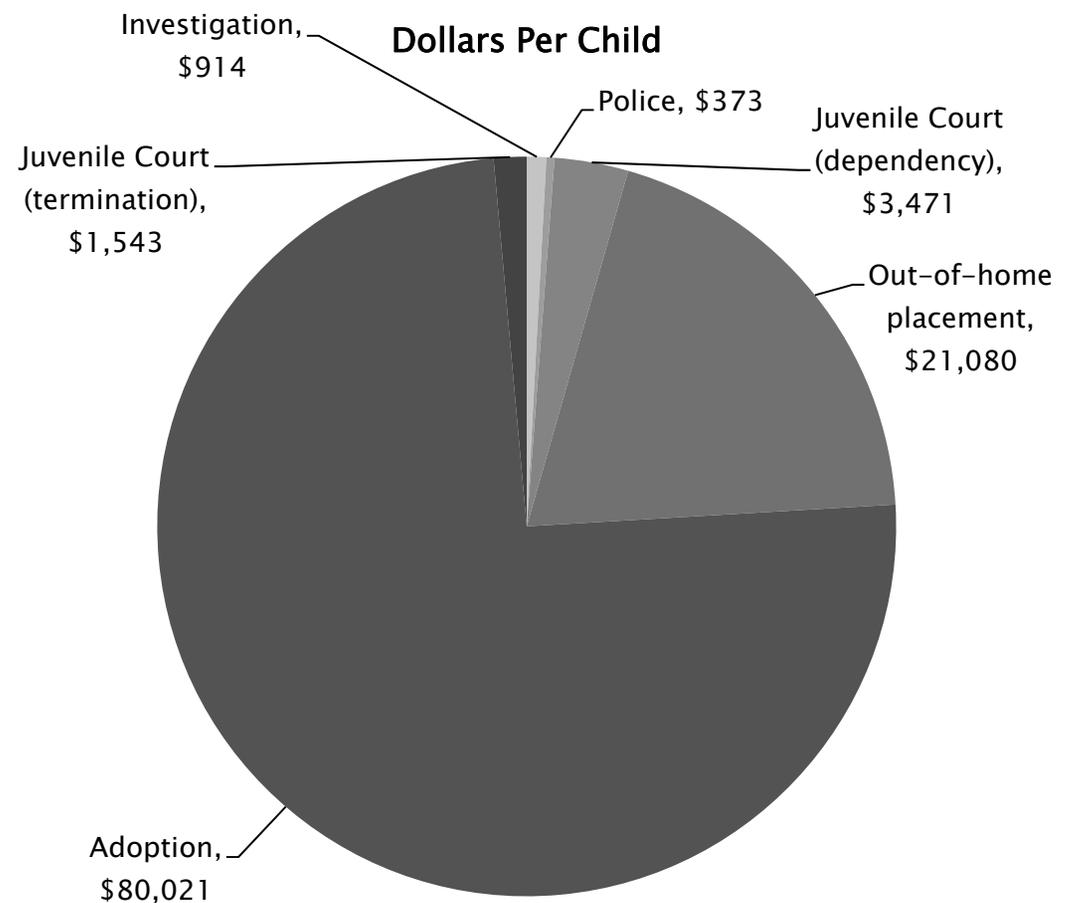
- **\$36.3 million**
- Around 2,000 children in care

Adoption Services

- **\$30.5 million**
- 333 Children Adopted in FY12 with 840 waiting for adoption

Cost of Child Maltreatment

- ▶ A single case of child maltreatment resulting in adoption=\$107 thousand.
- ▶ A foster care placement costs around \$21 thousand a year, compared with \$3,700 for in-home services.
- ▶ The majority of spending focuses on children once they have been taken into foster care.



Total=\$107,402

Cost of Child Maltreatment

New Mexico Federal Funding (IV-E and IV-B) and Child Welfare Statistics

Title IV-E money
spent to maintain
children in foster
care

\$27 million

3,700 children
are served by the
foster care
system each year



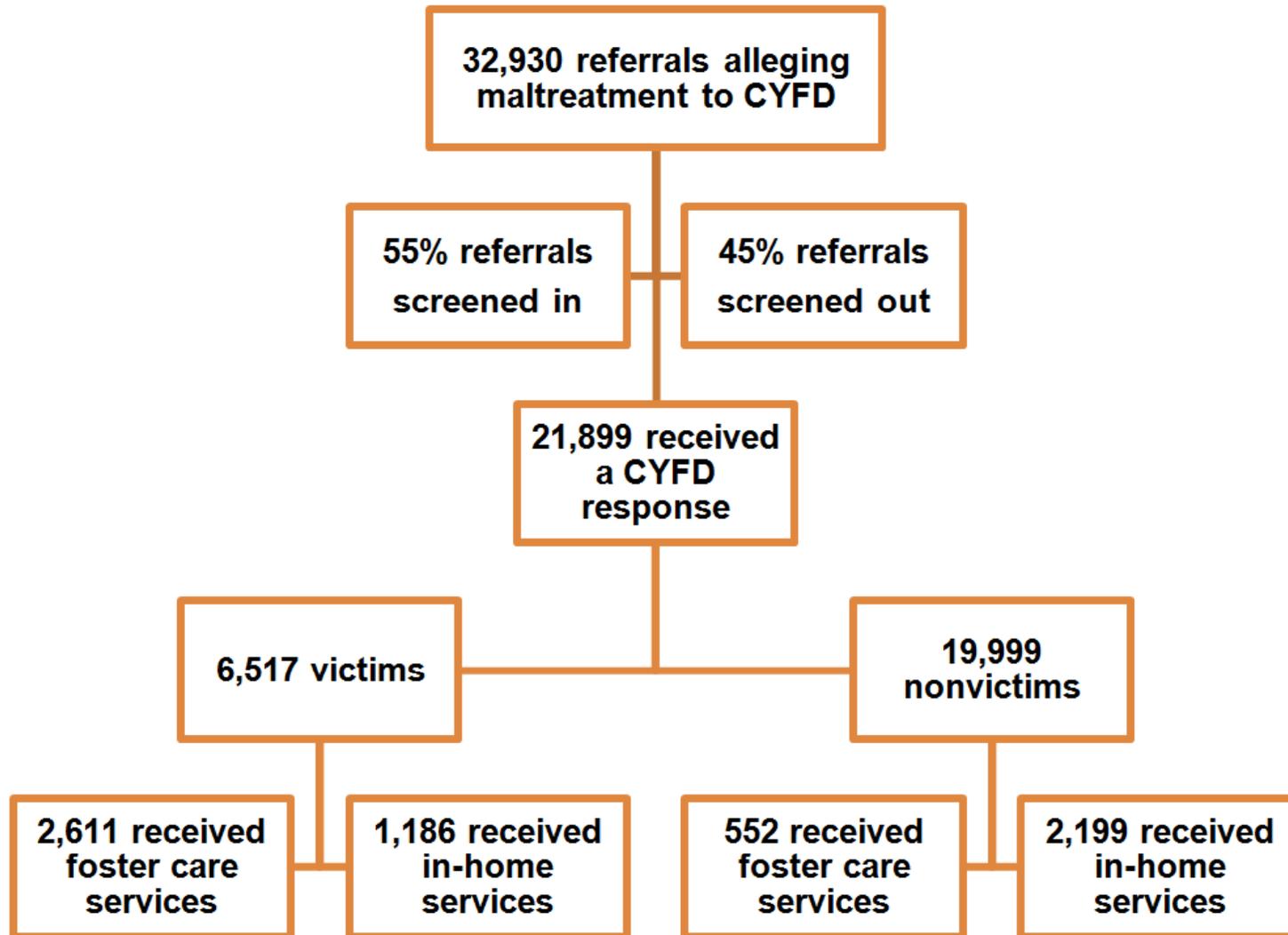
Title IV-B
money for
keeping children
safely out of
foster care

1.6 million

33,000
children are
involved in reports
of maltreatment
each year where
timely
interventions are
important



System Performance

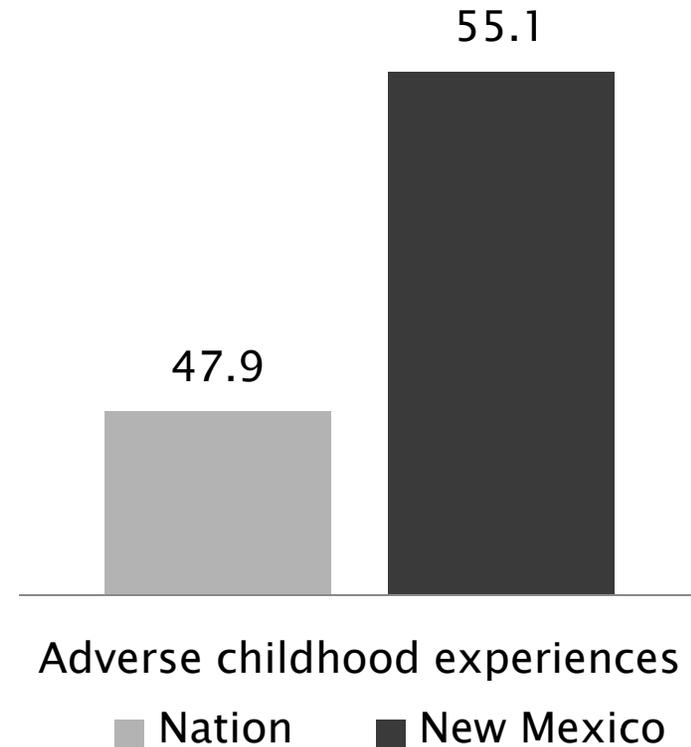


Source: NCANDS

System Performance

- ▶ NM has a higher percentage of children in poverty than 48 states.
- ▶ NM ACEs are higher than the national percentages.
- ▶ NM ranks the highest among all states on children with a drug abusing caregiver involved in the child welfare system.

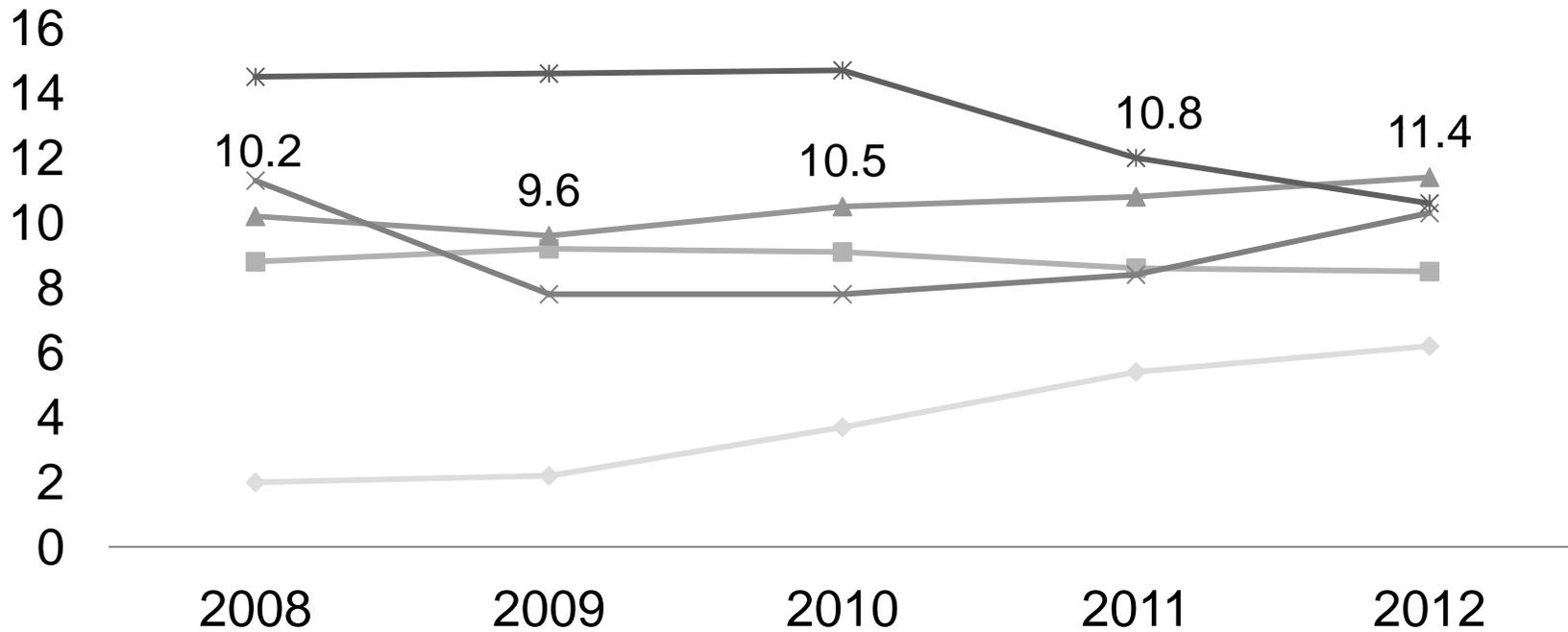
Percentage of Children From Birth to 17 Years with Adverse Childhood Experiences FY12



Source: The Child and Adolescent

System Performance

Child Victims Rate (per 1,000 children) 2008-2012

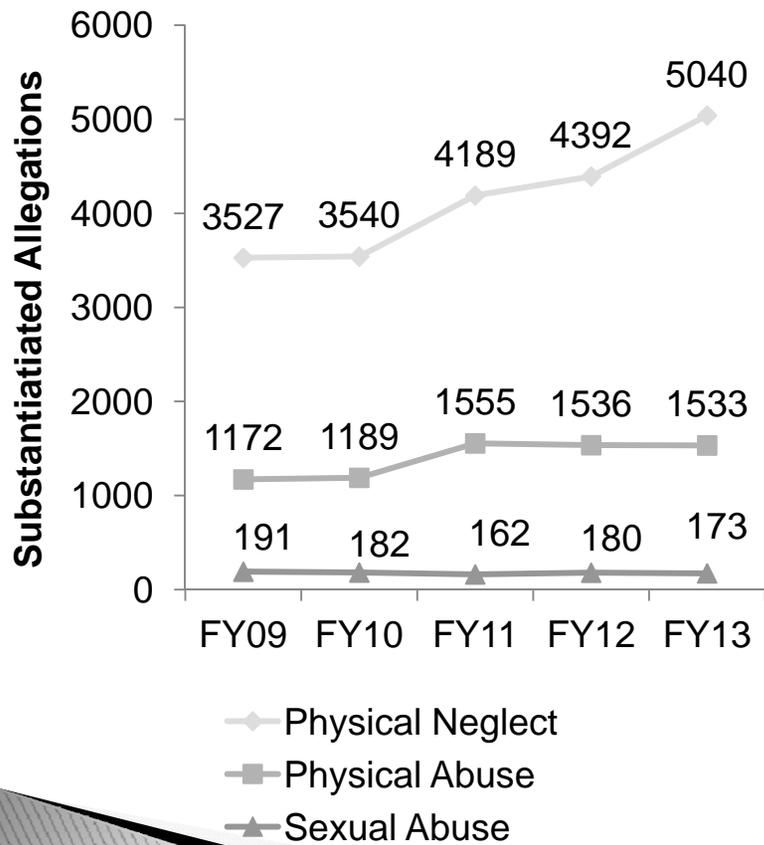


◆ Arizona ■ Colorado ▲ New Mexico
× Oklahoma * Utah

Source: HHS Child Maltreatment 2012

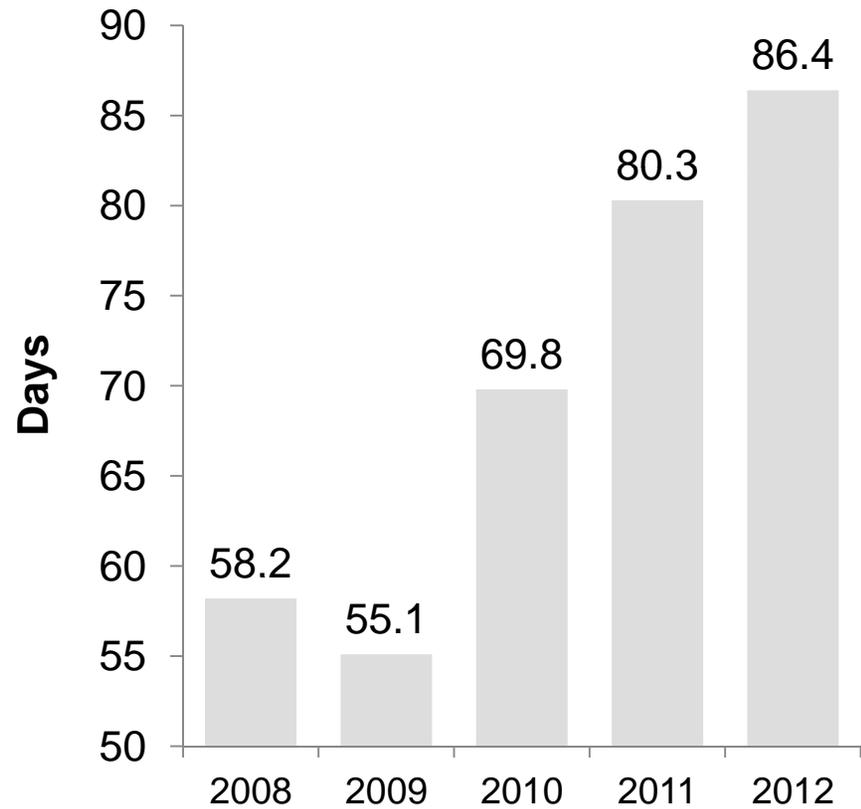
System Performance

New Mexico Substantiated Allegations of Maltreatment by Maltreatment Type FY09-FY13



Source: CYFD 360 Report

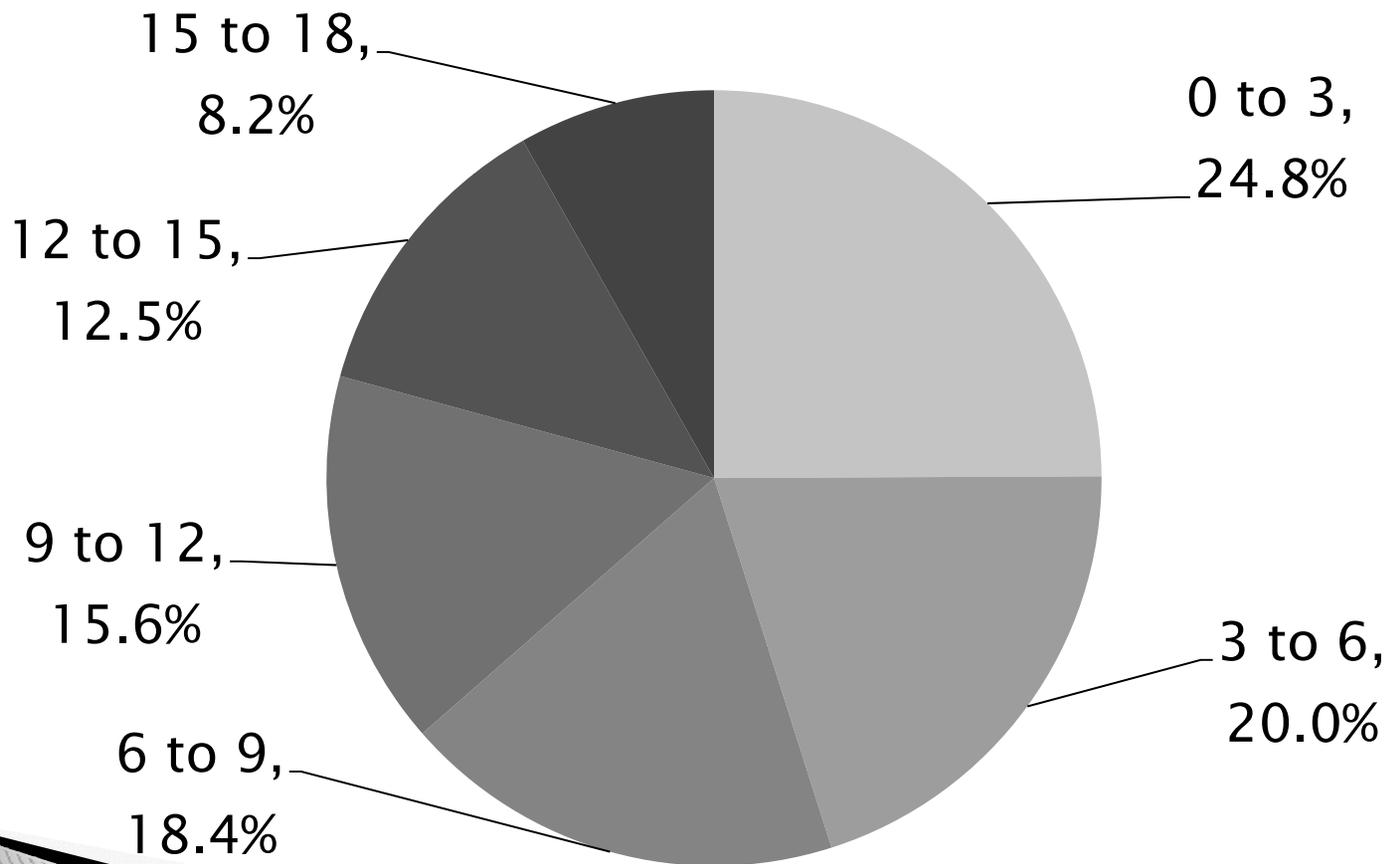
NM Length of Time to Reach Disposition (in Days)



Source: NCANDS
Calculated as time between referral and disposition date

System Performance

New Mexico Maltreatment Victims By Age FY2012

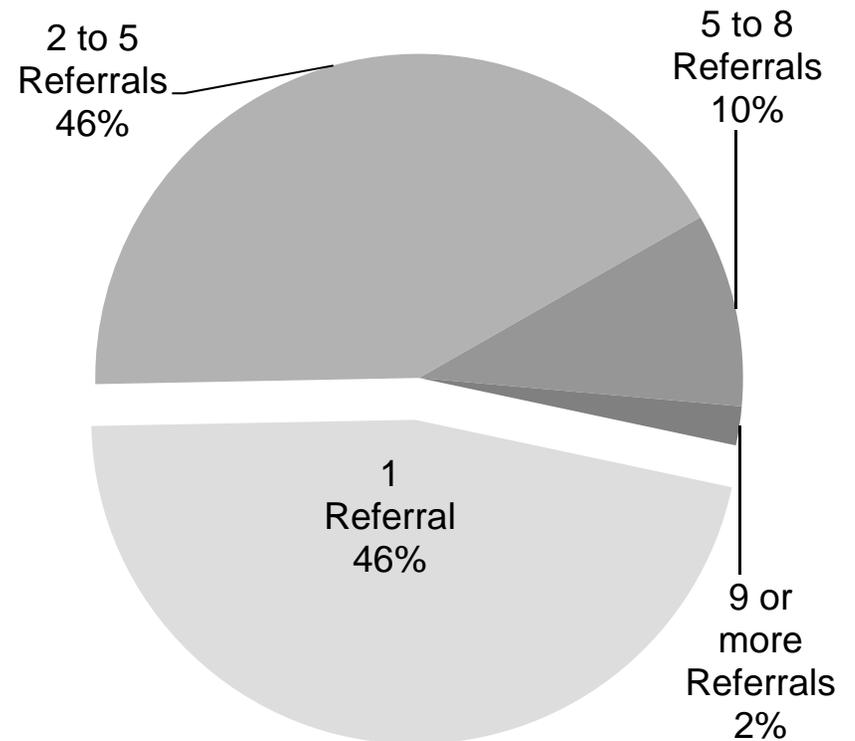


Source: NCANDS

System Performance

- ▶ 54 percent of children were re-referred to CYFD, in some cases more than 20 times.
- ▶ Of 11,993 children from 2004, 6,432 were re-referred by 2012.
- ▶ Research indicates that prevention and intervention services reduce re-referral.

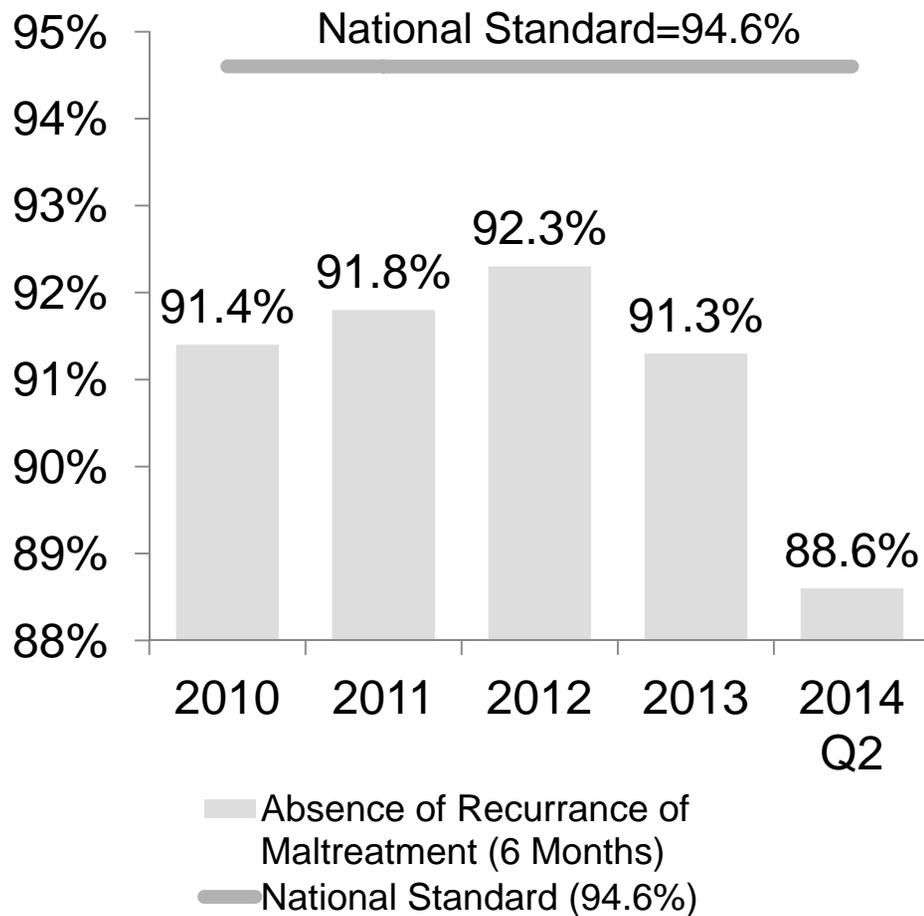
Number of Accepted Re-referrals 2004-2012
Cohort of Children Ages 0-9 from 2004
N=11,993 Children



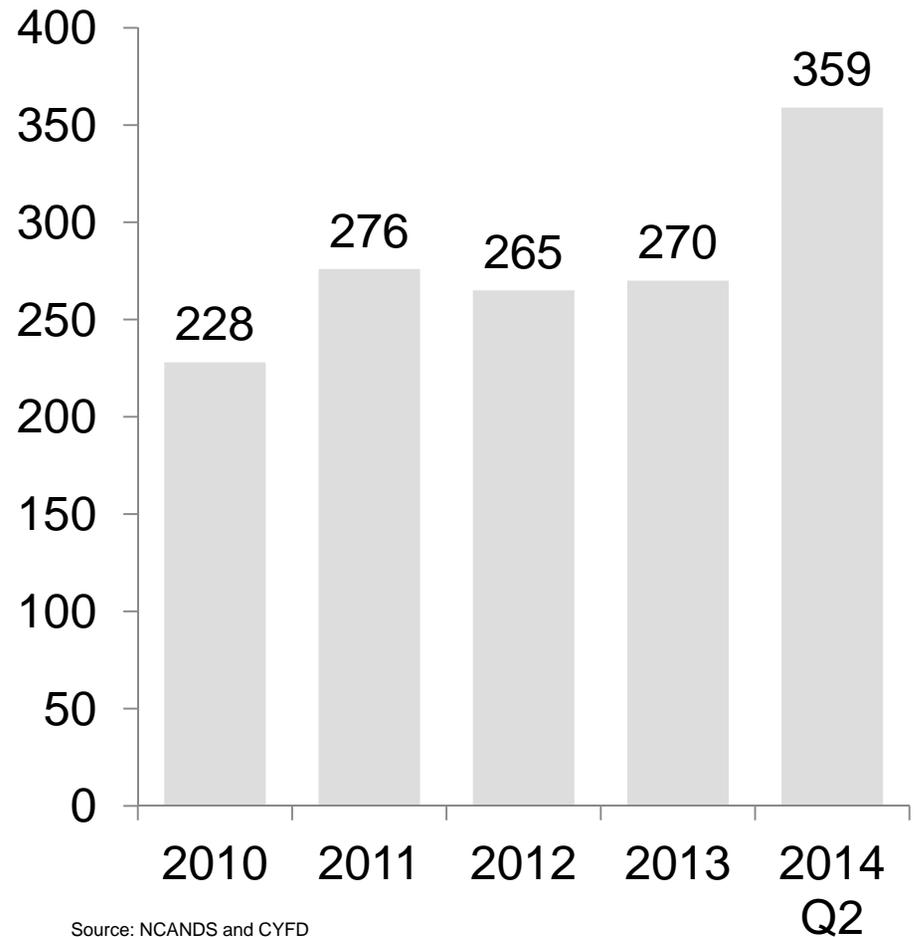
Source: NCANDS

System Performance

NM Absence of Recurrence of Maltreatment Within 6 Months



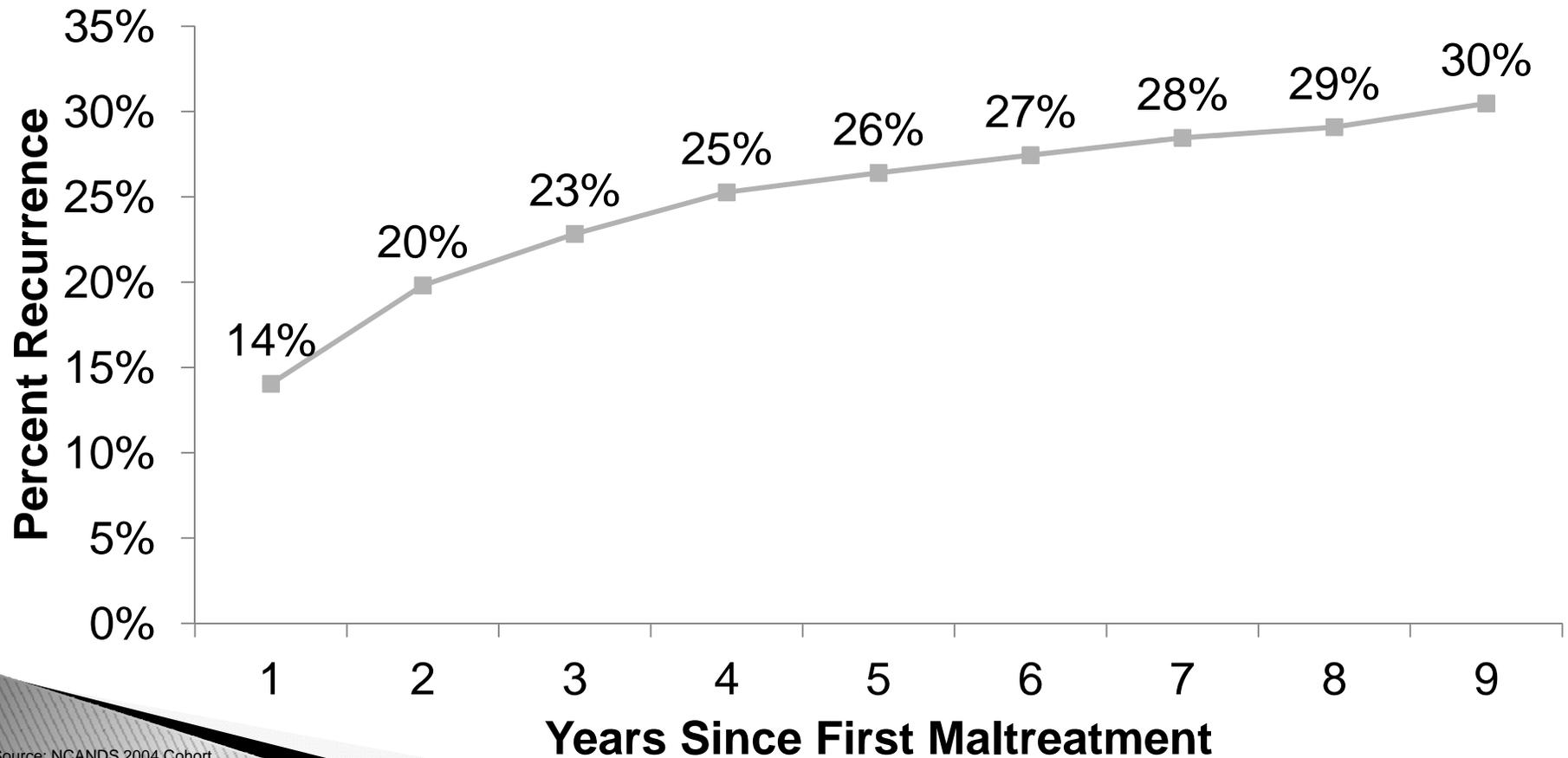
Number of Repeat Victims Within 6 Months



Source: NCANDS and CYFD

System Performance

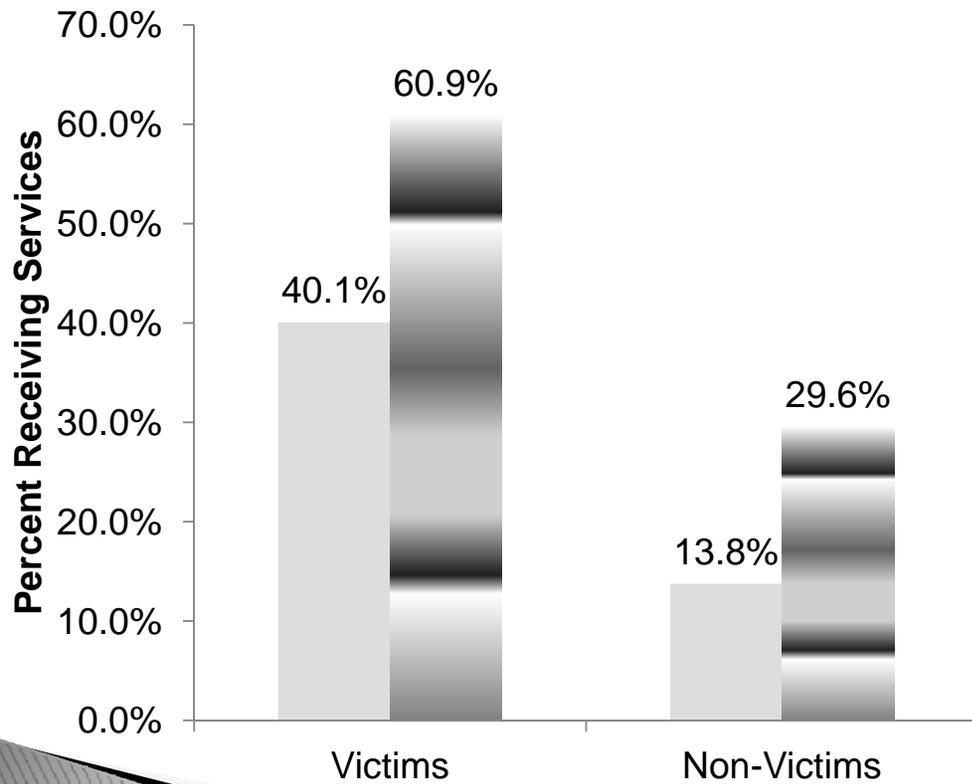
Cumulative Recurrence of Maltreatment By Years



Source: NCANDS 2004 Cohort

System Performance

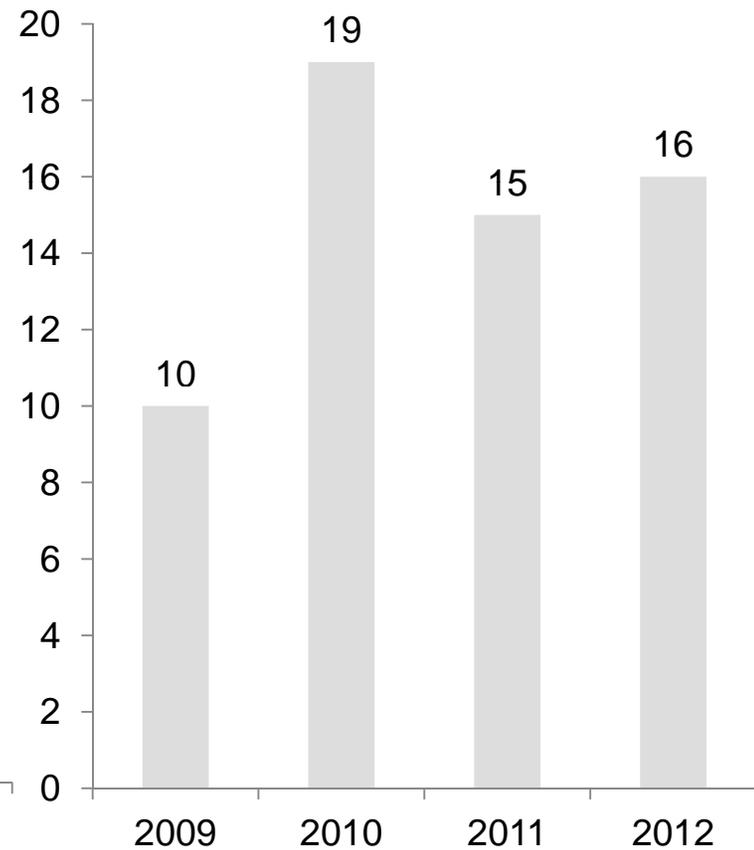
Percent of Children Receiving Post-investigation Services in FY12 (Foster Care or Other Services Provided in the Home)



Source: NCANDS

■ NM ■ US

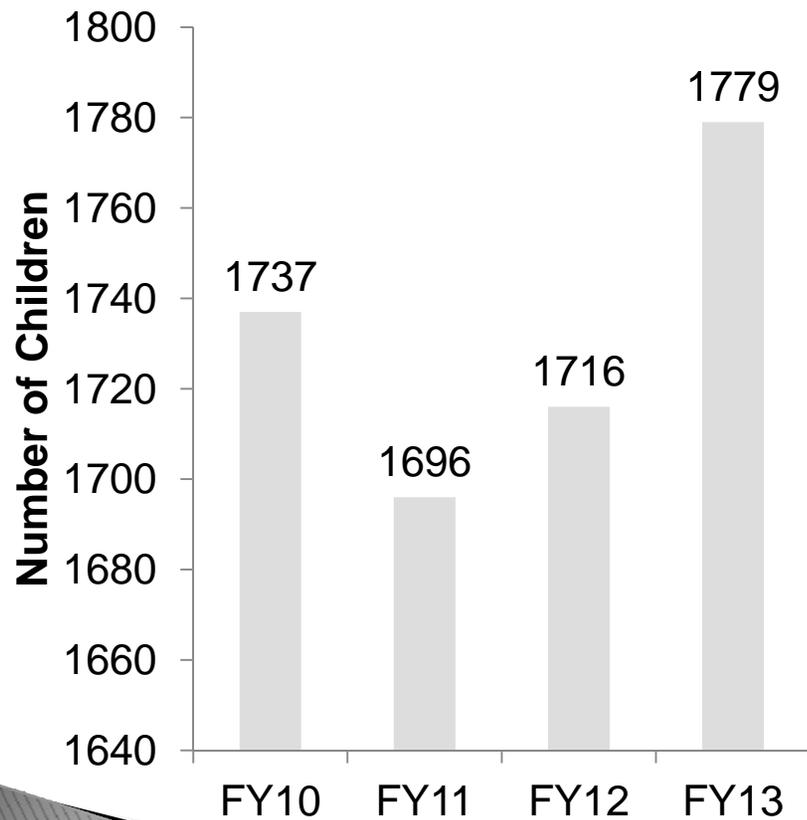
Child Maltreatment Fatalities



Source: NCANDS

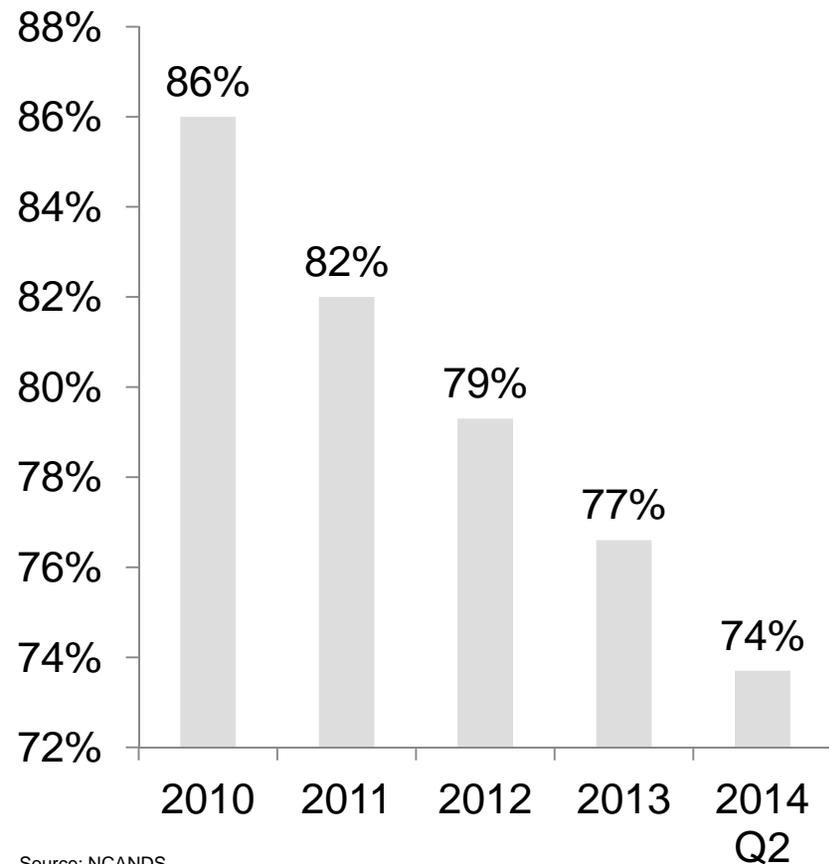
System Performance

Average Number of Children In Foster Care



Source: CYFD 360 Report

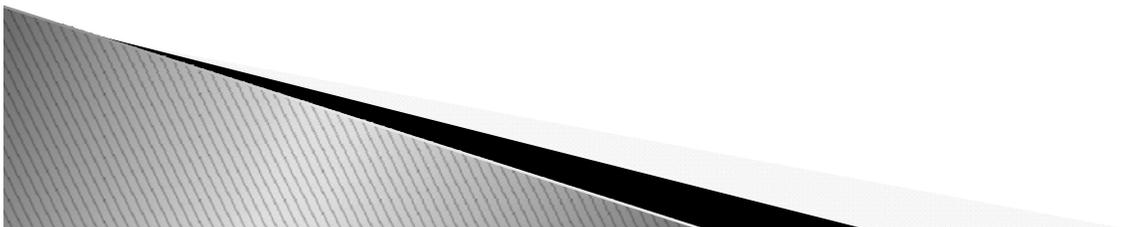
Children in Care for 12 Months with 2 or Fewer Placements

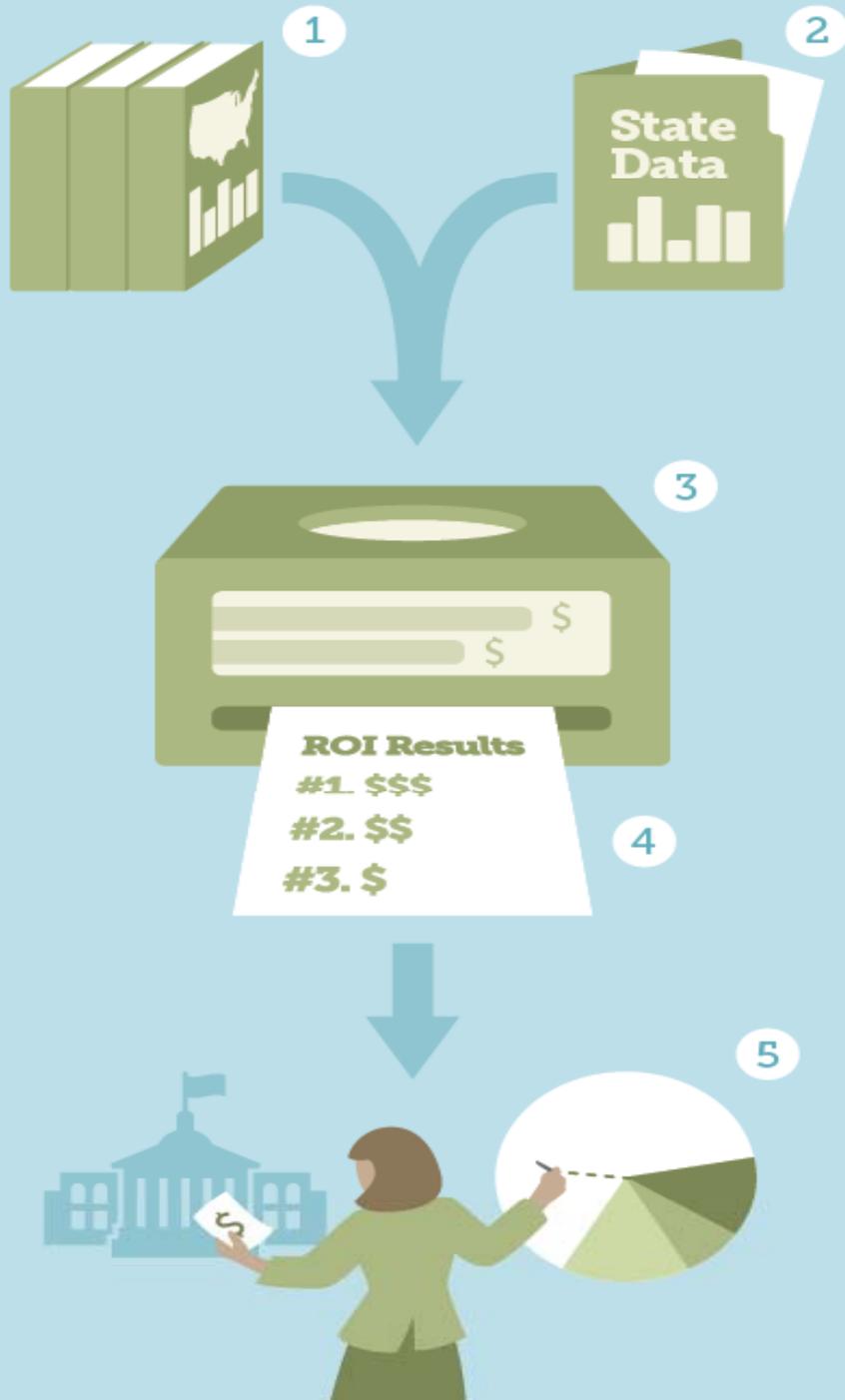


Source: NCANDS

What Works?

- ▶ New tool for supporting evidence-based policy making and budgeting.
- ▶ NM is Partnering with Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative.
- ▶ Can assess cost-benefits using best research and New Mexico data.





- 1 Results First provides a national database of evidence on program effectiveness.
- 2 The state adds and analyzes their own state-specific population and cost data.
- 3 The model calculates long-term costs and benefits for each program.
- 4 The model ranks programs according to their return on investment.
- 5 Policymakers consider the information during the budget process.

**For further information,
please visit:**

pewstates.org/resultsfirst

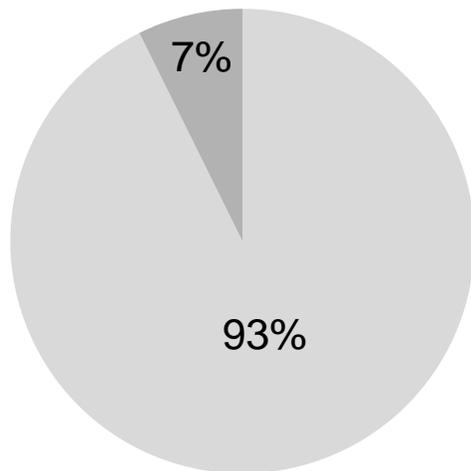


THE
PEW
CHARITABLE TRUSTS

MacArthur
Foundation

What Works?

CYFD Protective Services Spending on Evidence Based Programming



- Other Spending
- Evidence Based Services

Source: LFC

Evidence Based Prevention and Intervention Programs in Results First Analysis

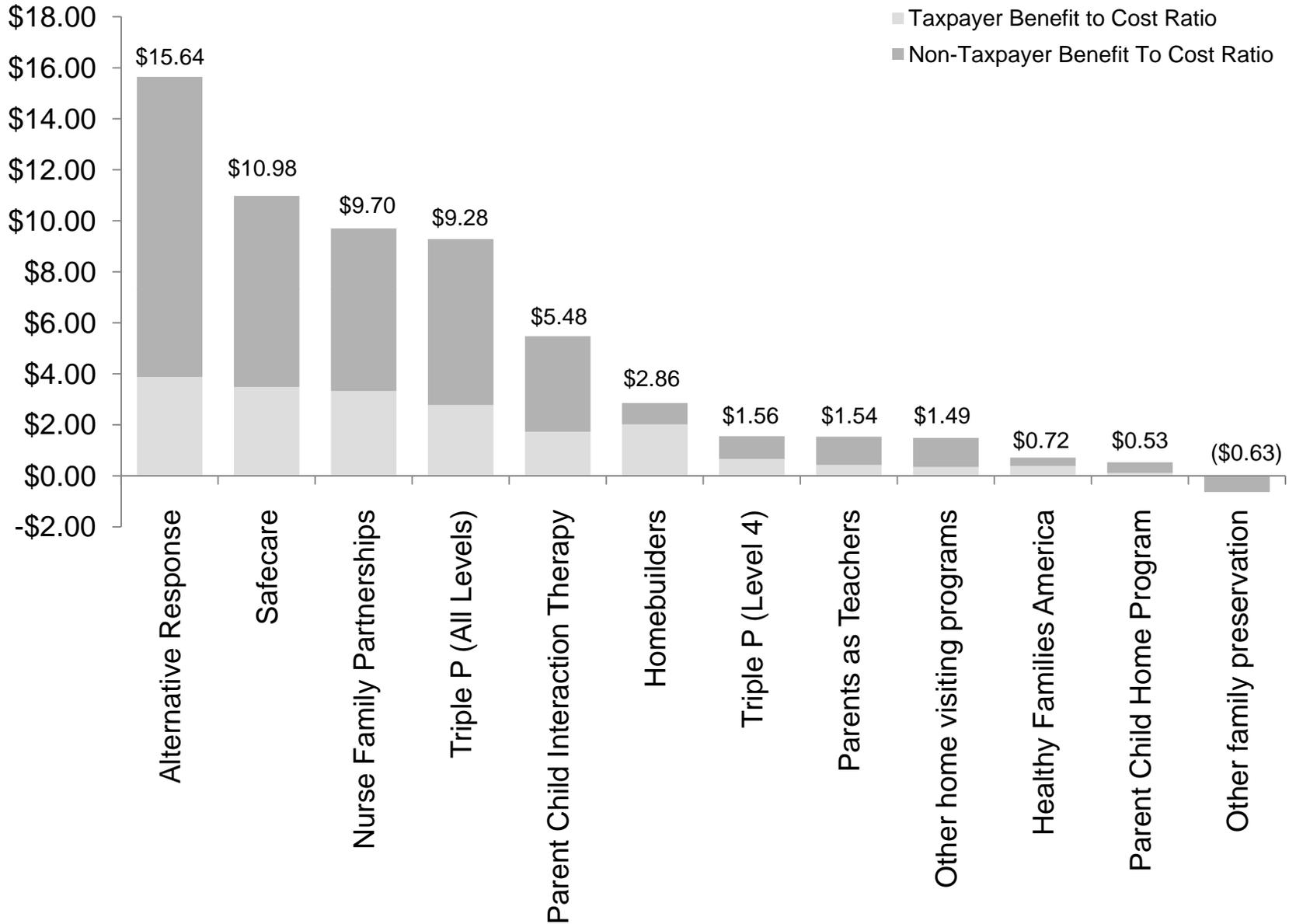
Prevention

- Nurse Family Partnership for low-income families
- Other home visiting programs for at-risk mothers and children
- Triple P Positive Parenting Program
- Parents as Teachers
- Healthy Families America
- Parent Child Home Program
- SafeCare

Intervention

- Other family preservation services (non-Homebuilders®)
- Alternative response/Differential Response
- Intensive family preservation services (Homebuilders)
- Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) for families in the child welfare system
- Subsidized guardianship (Title IV-E waivers)

Total Benefit to Cost Ratio By Program



Alternative Response

- ▶ If there are no imminent concerns about a child's safety, CPS conducts an assessment, with the goal of engaging a family to determine strengths and needs and plan for the future.
- ▶ It is perceived by some as less intrusive than a traditional investigation.
- ▶ Research indicates the program should reduce maltreatment for low income families by 11 percent and should reduce recurrence of maltreatment by 9 percent.

Outputs	Figure
Benefits to participants	\$868
Benefits to Taxpayers	\$380
Other Beneficiaries	\$285
Other Indirect Benefits	\$0
Total Benefits	\$1,533
Costs	(\$98)
Benefits minus Costs	\$1,435
Benefit to Cost Ratio	\$15.64
Chance of a Positive ROI	99%

Description

Estimated Cost-Benefit

NM Experience with Alternative Response

- ▶ NM ran Alternative Response as a pilot from 2005–2007.
- ▶ Results showed that families who accepted services...
 - had almost half as many repeat reports.
 - had a lower rate of repeat maltreatment.
 - had fewer children removed and placed in foster care.



Safe Care

- ▶ Trained professionals work with at-risk families in their home environments to improve parents' skills in several domains, such as planning and implementing activities with their children, responding appropriately to child behaviors, and addressing health and safety issues.
- ▶ SafeCare is generally provided in weekly home visits lasting 1–2 hours. The program typically lasts 18–20 weeks for each family.
- ▶ No programs currently in NM
- ▶ Research indicates the program should reduce maltreatment for low income families by 12 percent and should reduce recurrence of maltreatment by 10 percent.

Description

Outputs	Figure
Benefits to participants	\$1,006
Benefits to Taxpayers	\$617
Other Beneficiaries	\$320
Other Indirect Benefits	\$0
Total Benefits	\$1,943
Costs	(\$177)
Benefits minus Costs	\$1,766
Benefit to Cost Ratio	\$10.98
Chance of a Positive ROI	98%

Estimated Cost–Benefit

Nurse Family Partnership

- ▶ Provides intensive visitation by nurses during a woman's pregnancy and the first two years after birth.
- ▶ Intended to promote the child's development and provide support and instructive parenting skills to the parents.
- ▶ Programs in ABQ and McKinley County.
- ▶ Research indicates that the program should reduce maltreatment for low income families by 26 percent and should reduce recurrence of maltreatment by 22 percent.

Outputs	Figure
Benefits to participants	\$9,974
Benefits to Taxpayers	\$9,868
Other Beneficiaries	\$8,946
Other Indirect Benefits	\$0
Total Benefits	\$28,789
Costs	(\$3,000)
Benefits minus Costs	\$25,822
Benefit to Cost Ratio	\$9.70
Chance of a Positive ROI	89%

Description

Estimated Cost-Benefit

Triple P (All Levels)

- ▶ Triple P – Positive Parenting Program (all levels) is a universal prevention program that aims to increase the skills and confidence of parents in order to prevent the development of serious behavioral and emotional problems in their children.
- ▶ Triple P has five levels of intensity, only one is run in NM (Level 4).
- ▶ Triple P (All Levels) should reduce maltreatment for low income families by 19 percent and should reduce recurrence of maltreatment by 16 percent.

Outputs	Figure
Benefits to participants	\$705
Benefits to Taxpayers	\$403
Other Beneficiaries	\$239
Other Indirect Benefits	\$0
Total Benefits	\$1,346
Costs	(\$145)
Benefits minus Costs	\$1,201
Benefit to Cost Ratio	\$9.28
Chance of a Positive ROI	99%

Description

Estimated Cost–Benefit

Financing What Works for Front-End Services

- ▶ Child Welfare System benefits from state's increasing investments in home visiting.
 - Ensure programs available in high risk areas for child maltreatment.
 - Ensure programs produce promised results.
 - Leverage federal funds, such as Medicaid.
- ▶ Strategic use of existing resources.
 - Title IV-E Waiver.
 - Other federal child welfare funds.
- ▶ Reductions in out-of-home placements will free up resources for reinvestment.
 - Monitor child welfare outcomes.
 - Consider redirecting resources towards front-end evidence-based services; strong reunification services.

Summary

- ▶ Child maltreatment is costly and results in poor outcomes for children.
- ▶ Child maltreatment and recurrence of maltreatment is increasing in New Mexico.
- ▶ Taxpayers and families would benefit from the state increasing investments in highly effective evidence-based programs.

Conclusion

- ▶ We know the challenges facing children and families in New Mexico.
- ▶ We know state spends significant resources.
- ▶ But, are we appropriately targeting spending, and allocating resources to what works?
- ▶ What are the costs and benefits of those choices?
- ▶ Is program performance monitored and improved if necessary?