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California Department of Social Services

Child Welfare Services / Case Management System

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Children Age 6-12 Years Old in CWS/CMS, Year 2000



Prepared by:

Tevye Ditter
California Department of Social Services
Research and Development Division
Data Analysis and Publications Branch

Family Maintenance (FM) Component

FM provides in-home protective services to prevent or remedy neglect, abuse, or exploitation, for the purpose of preventing separation of children living with their families. CWDs are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and family aimed at sustaining the child in the home.

Family Reunification (FR) Component

FR provides time-limited foster care services to prevent or remedy abuse, neglect, or exploitation, when the child cannot safely remain at home, and needs temporary foster care, while services are provided to reunite the family. CWDs and the California Youth Authority Department are responsible for determining the specific service needs of the child and/or family aimed at reunifying the child with the family.

Permanent Placement (PP) Component

PP provides an alternative permanent family structure for children who, because of abuse, neglect, or exploitation, cannot safely remain at home and who are unlikely to ever return home. These services shall be provided on behalf of children for whom there has been a judicial determination of a permanent plan for adoption, legal guardianship, or long-term foster care. The CWDs and Probation Department are responsible for determining the appropriate permanent goal for the child and facilitating the implementation of that goal.

This report describes key information regarding children ages 6-12 who were referred to Child Welfare Services due to abuse and/or neglect during calendar year 2000. Information such as population demographics, referral/allegations or abuse types, out-of-home placements, and placement terminations are described in the following illustrations:

- *Children 6-12 Years Old Compared to Total California Population*
- *Children 6-12 Years Old Referred for Emergency Services Compared to All Referrals and California Child Population*
- *Ethnicity of Children 6-12 Years Old Referred for Services Compared with Total Referrals and California Child Ethnic Population*
- *Reported Referral Allegations by Ages Group (6-12 Years Old)*
- *Service Components for Children Ages 6-12 Years Old*
- *Ethnicity of Children 6-12 Years Old Terminated from Out-of-Home Placements*
- *Length of Stay in Last Placement Home for Ages Groups 6-12 Years Old*
- *Placement Type Prior to Termination for Children Ages 6-12 Years Old*

Background

This report is intended to provide an informational overview at the request of Children and Family Services Division, California Department of Social Services. The Research and Development Division (RADD) provides this information as a result of its role in generating and analyzing statistics for California's children receiving Child Welfare Services (CWS).

Summary of Findings

- Children ages 6-12 years old made up 3,891,578 (39.7%) of California's population in 2000; of this population, 225,478 (5.8%) children were referred for Child Welfare Services.
- General neglect was the most frequent allegation for children 6-12 years old, followed by physical abuse.
- Over 70% of children 10-12 years old were in permanent out-of-home placement supervised by CWS, compared with 52% of children of all ages.
- Children 6-12 years of age represented about one-third of the total 47,580 out-of-home placement terminations in 2000; of these children, two-thirds were reunified with their parents or guardian.
- Adoptions were most likely to occur for children up to 10 years of age.

2000 Population of California Children Ages 6-12 Years Old

Children 6-12 Years Old Compared to Total California Child Population

Age	Total CA Child Population 0-18 yr. (9,803,157)	% of Total CA Child Population 0-18 yr.
0	529,191	5.4%
1	502,391	5.1%
2	499,455	5.1%
3	500,473	5.1%
4	511,836	5.2%
5	528,395	5.4%
6	534,684	5.6%
7	540,215	5.5%
8	546,019	5.6%
9	553,213	5.6%
10	557,191	5.7%
11	543,703	5.5%
12	516,553	5.3%
13	505,937	5.2
14	489,959	5.0
15	489,931	5.0
16	484,454	4.9
17	479,343	4.9
18	490,214	5.0

Source: California, Department of Finance

- Total California population of children ages 6-12 years old was 3,891,578 (39.7% of the total California population).
- Age group proportions were similar across all age levels of California's child population.

Children Referred for Emergency Services

Children Ages 6-12 Years Old Referred for Emergency Services Compared to All Referrals and California Child Population

Age	Referrals 6-12 yrs. (225,478)	% of All Referrals (539,084)	% of Total CA Child Population (9,803,157)
6	32,765	6.1%	6.1%
7	33,609	6.2%	6.2%
8	33,719	6.3%	6.2%
9	33,396	6.2%	6.0%
10	32,669	6.1%	5.9%
11	30,201	5.6%	5.6%
12	29,119	5.4%	5.6%

*Source: CWS/CMS, 2000
California Department of Finance*

- Each age level, 6-12 years old, makes up approximately the same percent of child welfare referrals and the overall child population.

Gender of Children Referred: *Females 49%, Males 51%*

Ethnicity of Children Ages 6-12 Years Old Referred for Services Compared with Total Referrals and California Child Ethnic Population

Ethnicity	% of CA Child Population (9,803,157)	% of Total Referrals for All Ages (539,084)	% of Referrals for Children 6-12 Yrs. Old (225,478)
White	35%	33.6%	33.7%
Hispanic	43%	35.9%	36.2%
African American	7%	15.9%	16.2%
American Indian	1%	0.9%	0.9%
Asian/Pacific Islander	14%	3.5%	3.5%
Other	n/a	<1%	<1%
Unknown Ethnicity	n/a	9.9%	9.5%

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- Hispanic children represented the highest proportion in all populations
- The race/ethnicity of children referred to CWS in this age group is very similar to the general population.

Reported Referral Allegations by Age Group 6-12 Years Old

	Age														Total
	6	%	7	%	8	%	9	%	10	%	11	%	12	%	
Caretaker Absent or Incapacitated	2,286	7.0	2,282	6.8	2,282	6.8	2,326	7.0	2,329	7.1	2,112	7.0	2,215	7.6	15,832
General Neglect	11,626	35.5	11,603	34.5	11,576	34.3	11,291	33.8	10,973	33.6	10,035	33.2	9,226	31.7	76,330
Severe Neglect	737	2.2	764	2.3	718	2.1	664	2.0	613	1.9	580	1.9	544	1.9	4,620
Substantial Risk	584	1.8	571	1.7	572	1.7	609	1.8	604	1.8	562	1.9	582	2.0	4,084
Physical Abuse	6,849	20.9	7,267	21.6	7,379	21.9	7,298	21.9	7,140	21.9	6,764	22.4	6,664	22.9	49,361
Sexual Abuse	3,334	10.2	3,291	9.8	3,329	9.9	3,282	9.8	3,233	9.9	3,069	10.2	3,169	10.9	22,707
Emotional Abuse	3,669	11.2	3,759	11.2	3,719	11.0	3,716	11.1	3,649	11.2	3,366	11.1	3,116	10.7	24,994
At Risk, Sibling Abuse	3,620	11.0	3,984	11.9	4,056	12.0	4,132	12.4	4,024	12.3	3,625	12.0	3,512	12.1	26,953
Exploitation	60	0.2	88	0.3	88	0.3	78	0.2	104	0.3	88	0.3	91	0.3	597
Total:	32,765	100	33,609	100	33,719	100	33,396	100	32,669	100	30,201	100	29,119	100	225,478

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- A total of 539,084 referrals were received for all children in 2000. For children ages 6-12 years old there were 225,478 (42%).
- General Neglect was the most frequent allegation for all children 6-12 years old, followed by Physical Abuse.

Substantiated Referrals

Of the 225,478 referrals reported in 2000 for children ages 6-12 years old:

- A total of 174,209 were investigated.
- 39,310 (23%) of the referrals were substantiated, compared with 27% of children ages 0-5 and 24% of children ages 13-18 years old.
- 134,899 (77%) were Unfounded/Inconclusive.

Type of Services Received

Service Component Caseload for Children Ages 6-12 Years Old

(Total Children Ages 6-12: 56,540)

Age	Emergency Response	Family Maintenance	Family Reunification	Permanent Placement	Missing Data/Unknown
6	1%	25%	8%	64%	2%
7	1%	24%	8%	65%	2%
8	1%	23%	7%	66%	2%
9	1%	22%	7%	69%	2%
10	<1%	20%	7%	71%	2%
11	<1%	19%	7%	72%	2%
12	<1%	18%	7%	72%	2%

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- The proportion of children 6-12 years old in Family Maintenance decreased with age, from 25% for age 6 to 18% for age 12. Overall, 26% of children ages 0-5 and 11% of children ages 13-18 were in Family Maintenance, compared to 21% for children ages 6-12.
- The proportion of children in Permanent Placement increased with age, from 64% to 72% among children ages 6-12 years old. Overall, 60% of children both ages 0-5 and 13-18 were in Permanent Placement, compared to 68% for children ages 6-12 years old.
- Over 70% of children 10-12 years old were in Permanent Placement.
- The average length of stay was 23 months for children 6-12 years old, compared with 12 months for children 0-5 and 30 months for ages 13-18 years old.

Children 6-12 Years of Age Receiving Out-of-Home Care Services

(Total Children Ages 6-12: 56,540)

Age	Foster Family Agency	Foster Family Home	Group Home	Relative Home	Other Home
6	16%	22%	1%	47%	14%
7	15%	20%	2%	47%	16%
8	15%	18%	3%	47%	16%
9	14%	17%	4%	47%	18%
10	16%	16%	4%	48%	16%
11	14%	16%	5%	48%	17%
12	14%	15%	7%	46%	18%

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- Children ages 6-7 years old had the highest proportion of Foster Family Home placements.
- Children age 12 had the highest proportion of Group Home placements.

Placement Terminations from Out-of-Home Care

Ethnicity of Children Ages 6-12 Years Old in Placement Terminations

(Total Children Age 6-12: 16,361)

Age	White	Hispanic	African American	American Indian	Asian/Pacific Islander	Unknown Ethnicity	Total	% Of All Placement Terminations (47,580)
6	893	927	650	30	82	19	2,601	11.7%
7	845	860	649	32	89	20	2,495	11.6%
8	809	902	638	28	76	14	2,467	9.4%
9	785	772	708	34	69	24	2,392	<1%
10	793	766	645	25	75	22	2,326	1.1%
11	715	628	600	21	54	18	2,036	<1%
12	699	659	587	28	56	15	2,044	<1%
Total	5,539	5,514	4,477	198	501	132	16,361	

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- Children ages 6 and 7 years old make up the highest proportion of terminations (11.7%, 11.6%). Children ages 9-12 years old only made up 1% or fewer.
- Children 6-12 years of age represented (34%) of the total 47,580 out-of-home placement terminations in 2000.

Termination Reasons for Children 6-12 Years of Age

(Total Children Age 6-12: 16,361)

Age	Reunified with Parent/Guardian	Adoption Finalized	Guardianship	Other Reasons	Missing Data
6	61%	19%	16%	2%	2%
7	64%	15%	18%	1%	2%
8	65%	13%	18%	2%	2%
9	65%	13%	18%	2%	2%
10	65%	11%	20%	3%	1%
11	66%	9%	21%	2%	2%
12	65%	8%	22%	4%	1%

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- Adoptions were more likely to occur for the younger children up to 10 years old. Overall, 23% of children ages 0-5 and 7% of children ages 13-18 were adopted, compared to 38% of children ages 6-12 years old.
- Children 11-12 years old represented the highest proportion of placement terminations due to Guardianship.

Placement Type Prior to Termination for Children 6-12 Years of Age Old

(Total Children Age 6-12: 16,361)

Age	Foster Family Agency	Foster Family Home	Group Home	Relative Home	Other Home
6	16%	22%	1%	47%	14%
7	15%	20%	2%	47%	16%
8	15%	18%	3%	47%	16%
9	14%	17%	4%	47%	18%
10	16%	16%	4%	48%	16%
11	14%	16%	5%	48%	17%
12	14%	15%	7%	46%	18%

Source: CWS/CMS, 2000

- Children ages 6 to 7 years old were the groups most likely to leave CWS from a foster family home placement.
- Children age 12 years old were the group most likely to leave CWS from a group home placement.
- Children ages 0 to 5 years old were most likely to terminate from a relative home placement (37%), while 13 to 18 year old children were most likely to terminate from a group home placement (33%).

Length of Stay in Last Placement Home for Age Groups 6-12 Years Old

- 21% or less of children ages 6-12 years remained in their most recent placement for up to one month and 10% remained for 5 or more years.